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QUDRA MATTERS

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Resilience for Syrian refugees, IDPs
and host communities in response
to the Syrian and Iraqi crises

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Implemented by



DEAR READERS,



according to the Oxford dictionary, the word “resilience” describes the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties. And this is what the Qudra Programme is all about – strengthening the resilience of Syrian and Iraqi refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) as well as host communities in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

The current issue of our magazine “Qudra Matters” tells stories about how much Qudra matters to beneficiaries, stakeholders, partner governments, representatives of commissioning agencies, the staff of the programme, and many others in the region affected by the ongoing Syrian and Iraqi refugee crisis.

For example, meet Zeinab Halabi, one of the few female football coaches in Lebanon, who, based on her experience in sports is empowering and supporting girls in local communities. Read how Lara Khozouz single handedly changes the perception of facility management in the public sector in Jordan. Find out about the lasting impact the installation of LED street lighting in a Jordanian municipality had on safety in local communities. Learn more about how a tailor-made agricultural technique ensures year-round water supply for families living in a small mountain village in the Kurdish region of Iraq. And see what makes Syrian and Venezuelan refugee girls giggle when sharing their common experience of fleeing their home country due to conflict and crisis.

Qudra matters to all these people and many more. We hope it matters to you. We’d love to hear your thoughts.

On behalf of everyone at Qudra: enjoy reading!

Yours sincerely
Dr Günther Taube
Qudra Programme Director

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IMPLEMENTATION

ON THE RECORD







OPEN SPACE TECHNOLOGY IN JORDAN

HOW TO CREATE THE SCHOOL WE WANT?

WHAT IS OPEN SPACE TECHNOLOGY?

When walking into Prince Mohammad School, an all-boys school in Zarqa, Jordan, you instantly hear lots of noise from excited young students: The Jordanian and Syrian boys just discovered the new wash units rehabilitated by the Qudra Programme. The bathrooms are part of major rehabilitation efforts at the school to improve the learning environment. Experience has shown, unfortunately, that maintaining school facilities remains a challenge due to a lack of systematic facility management accompanied by vandalism.

The Open Space approach is a simple and powerful way to involve the community, to catalyse effective conversations and to invite different parties involved. It can enable all kinds of people from different backgrounds to create a platform, where ordinary people work together to create extraordinary results. The Open Space Technology allows groups of up to 1,000 to work together in one-day workshops, take action and responsibility to participate and to perform. In summary, involving the community and individuals to express their own ideas is a very effective tool!

To prepare for an active participation, Jordanian and Syrian students were offered several “awareness-sessions” by Qudra on the methodology and how it works: Everyone in the open space is equal without hierarchy – one of the most important rules in the open space setting.



“WHAT CAN WE DO TO CREATE THE SCHOOL WE REALLY WANT: SAFE, INSPIRING AND BEAUTIFUL?”

At the Open Space event at Prince Mohammed School, more than 300 people attended – despite cold and rainy weather, which showed the great dedication and interest of the school community. The participants suggested more than 20 topics in the plenary which were then discussed in smaller working groups chosen according to the interests of participants. By the end of the day, all participants voted for their favourite topic, resulting in a priority list of all 20 topics ranging from suggestions on facility management, extra-curricular activities to ways of improving self-learning.

Implemented by GIZ, Qudra now assists the school to create action groups around the topics and to establish linkages with other institutions like for e.g. University students to facilitate extra-curricular activities as volunteers.

NEW WASH UNITS





TO IMPROVE LIVELIHOODS

TAILOR-MADE TECHNIQUES TO ENHANCE PRODUCTIVITY

Lack of water resources and insufficient access to sanitation limits economic growth and prevents a sustainable future¹. What's more, inefficient usage of existing resources may cause poor agricultural productivity. Therefore, Qudra initiated two projects designed to provide water access to households in the Sulaymaniyah Governorate in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq / KRI to improve livelihoods and employment opportunities.

In some areas water application may not always correspond to product demands. To improve this, Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA) with its implementing partner Rehabilitation, Education and Community Health (REACH) developed an irrigation project in Kani Shok village, introducing a tailor-made agriculture technique to control the exact amount of water needed for agricultural lands. The system is expected to ensure a continuous water supply throughout the year. According to government statistics more than 500 households will benefit from the improved technology.

¹WWAP (United Nations World Water Assessment Programme). 2016. *The United Nations World Water Development Report 2016: Water and Jobs*. Paris, UNESCO.

HARVESTING AND STORING THE RAINWATER

In Tilako Darband, a small village in the Sulaymaniyah Governorate, 31 families have very limited access to water. In the past, the village depended solely on rainwater. This resulted in multiple losses of entire harvests. Although, rainwater often has a better quality than other water sources, the key to sufficiently use it, is storing it properly.

Qudra implemented a small dam project in the village. As a result, the inhabitants of Tilako Darband can now grow crops without

having to fear further losses of their harvest.

Both Qudra projects were officially presented recently, with the participation of the Project Manager of HIA, the Project Manager of REACH, the Representative of the Ministry of Water Resources, the Director of the District and the Mayor of the village.

 The Kurdistan Region of Iraq/KRI



QUDRA CELEBRATES THE SUCCESSFUL REHABILITATION OF 15 PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN TURKEY

Old, unsafe and not accessible for handicapped children – The facilities in the Aslanbey Primary School in Kilis, Turkey, needed urgent rehabilitation to provide a safe and comfortable space for its 700 Turkish and Syrian students. After all, quality education starts with a proper learning environment.



This is why, the Qudra Programme renovated the Aslanbey Primary School and 14 additional public schools in Kilis, Gaziantep and Şanlıurfa. All these communities host high numbers of Syrian refugees and need support in providing enough space and working facilities to accommodate all students.

To mark the final completion of Qudra's rehabilitation work in all schools in Turkey, a symbolic school handover ceremony to the Ministry of Education (MoNE) took place on February 18th, 2019 at the Aslanbey Primary School, which was attended by representatives of the German Embassy and continued with a traditional Turkish dance performance and the school choir.

Qudra worked closely together with MoNE and focused on the most important needs of the school communities: Safety, health and sustainability. The rehabilitation efforts included the installation of new roofs, water tanks, sanitary facilities, energy-saving LED lamps, improved playgrounds for extracurricular activities and accessibility for disabled children – a primary focus for Qudra in Turkey.

In total, over 18.000 students, a third of which is Syrian, and 600 teachers benefit now from the renovated public schools.

REHABILITATION



QUDRA

TURKEY



A REGIONAL DIALOGUE

FOR COHERENCE AND STABILITY

On February 12th and 13th, 2019 stakeholders, representatives of NGOs, INGOs, and start-ups from Lebanon, Jordan, the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and Turkey, met for the Regional Stakeholder Dialogue Meeting of the EU Madad Innovation Lab II held in Beirut, Lebanon. Its purpose was to exchange experiences, share lessons learnt and evaluate the concept and outcome of the EU Madad Innovation Lab II on Youth and Digital Innovation. The aim was to create joint future actions in the region. Representatives from each country introduced their prototypes from a wide range of sectors such as engineering, medical, arts and agriculture.

A COHERENT LEARNING SPACE FOR ALL

Launched with opening speeches by Mr. Ryan Knox, Programme Manager EU Regional Trust Fund in Lebanon, and Mr. Haikal El Abed, Country Focal Point for Lebanon at Qudra Programme, the meeting offered an open space to the stakeholders, partners and participants to jointly design and implement regional initiatives. Fostering inclusivity, diversity, facilitating space for debate, inspiring conversation by these dialogue formats is one of Qudra's aim to ensure coherence and cohesion between communities in the region. The meeting allowed stakeholders from all over the region to share their approaches to the explicit community members whom they have worked with.

"We emphasised social entrepreneurship because the main aim was to find innovative solutions to the social and cultural problems around them. My main advice to the participants was to never be afraid to take action and fail." Zeynep Karagöz, Maker Çocuk, Turkey.

Implemented by GIZ, the second round of the EU Madad Labs focused on finding answers to the guiding question: "How can young people from refugee, IDP and host communities tackle their problems using digital innovations?" As a key element working on the link between humanitarian relief and development in the region, the Labs enables a platform for exchanging experiences, learning participatory techniques, and developing innovative approaches to strengthen the resilience of the communities.



All the prototypes developed at the Labs, focused on finding solutions for problems faced by host communities and refugees.

“The challenge we faced was the difference in the technical knowledge of participants. The key was to stretch ourselves and hit both ends: participants with a wide knowledge, and the others with a basic one”, said Hemin Latif, expert from Tera Target in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq/KRI.



YOUTH AND DIGITAL INNOVATION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE CRISIS

At the end of each day, participants were invited to visit the Beirut Digital District and the American University of Beirut. These visits allowed invitees to learn from each other's experiences and get to know the initiatives from a different aspect of crisis context. At the Lebanese hub for digitalisation and innovation the group met start-ups and professionals, who introduced the various entrepreneurial endeavours in the region.

After two days of interaction Omar Habib, the moderator of the event summed up the experience:

“I think it's critical for Qudra to join the stakeholders in such an event, because the programme's vision is to observe how they can work together. All the participants were positive about engaging with each other, and I believe there will be a potential for future collaborations between stakeholders of different countries especially between ones with similar ecosystems. Today, they shared their experiences, the similarities and differences between them, and passed the torch to each other.”

□ Jordan



ART DOESN'T KNOW BORDERS!

“Are you allowed to have boyfriends?” The Syrian girls start to giggle while watching the video chat screen for a reaction. With a little time-delay, a Colombian girl finally dares to answer on the other end: “Maybe when we are 22.” Everyone laughs.

This video chat is part of a special art project implemented by GIZ: Qudra in cooperation with partner Artolution initiated a so-called digital art exchange project between Syrian refugee girls living in Jordan and Venezuelan refugee youth in host communities in Colombia. Together, they are drawing with an online app on tablets, which makes it possible for both groups to view the art of everyone digitally.

First, the girls agreed on their most favourite subjects to draw: animals, musical instruments and culture. At the end of the project,



all individual contributions are integrated into a digital collage symbolizing the cultural exchange between the groups. After every drawing session, the girls are video chatting with one another with the help of a translator.



C H A T

During the chat, the students have the chance to ask each other questions: “Is it nice for you to live in Colombia now?” “Do you feel at home in the new country?” “Why do you wear a hijab?” “What is your favourite food?” The girls visibly enjoy talking with one another and share their experiences about living in a new country.

“I didn’t even know that there was a country which was called Colombia before the drawing project”, a girl from Syria says. Similar feedback was given by a Colombian girl: “When I heard ‘Syria’ I used to only think of war. I also thought that there would be a lot of differences between our cultures. But, we have a lot in common.”

#BALANCEFORBETTER

A TRIBUTE TO THE INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY 2019





MORE CONFIDENT TO PURSUE MY PASSION



Many refugees and IDPs display strong entrepreneurial qualities yet face barriers to pursue their passion. Qudra provides non-financial tools facilitating the creation of micro, small or medium businesses for the members of these communities driven to start their own business. Qudra's micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) component, implemented by Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA), taps into the entrepreneurial skills, knowledge and experience of refugees and IDPs by supporting them to navigate and succeed in the business environment.

The Kurdistan Region of Iraq/KRI

A "CUTE CAKE" FROM ONE TINY OVEN

Lozan Muhamad Arab is a 33-year old woman from the Kurdistan Region of Iraq/KRI. As a result of the crisis, she couldn't manage to find employment after her university studies. As a mother of three, she discovered her passion for making cakes by chance. It was her oldest son's birthday, and she wanted to bake a cake herself, rather than to buy one from a shop. Lozan's family was surprised by the exquisite taste of the cake, so a week later, for another birthday in the family, she was asked to bake another cake.

After a few more experiences and many compliments about her cakes, Lozan was determined to pursue her talent and passion. She decided to set up her in-house business and to look after her kids at the same time. She started a social media account named “cute_cake” as an advertisement tool to post her work and attract more customers.

Arising challenges did not stop her. Lozan says: “Back then I was making cakes, but I only had a tiny oven and not even a properly working blender. Sometimes I had to spend three entire days only to prepare one cake because I lacked the necessary equipment”.



LOZAN MUHAMMAD ARAB

PROVIDING SUPPORT TO ENSURE MEANINGFUL SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

Lozan heard about Qudra Programme and its MSMEs component supporting entrepreneurs to develop their businesses by providing non-financial tools.

“Through Qudra programme, I managed to have all the necessary equipment to facilitate my work in cake making, and now I feel more confident pursuing my passion”, she adds.

These days, Lozan’s challenge is receiving almost too many orders to handle on her own. She is thinking about opening her own shop. And hiring a few people to assist her.

CHALLENGE

MEET

□ Lebanon

ZEINAB HALABI

ONE OF THE FEW FEMALE FOOTBALL COACHES IN LEBANON

“I always loved to interact with other nationalities. Qudra gave me the opportunity to enhance tolerance and teamwork among children despite their differences. This experience motivated me to be a role model especially for young girls in my community”, said Zeinab Halabi after participating in two events of Qudra’s Specific Objective Education Infrastructure implemented by GIZ.

During “The Ball 2018” initiative which was organized by Qudra and the NGO Spirit of Football, Zeinab was one of 25 trainers that were qualified to transfer social values such as conflict resolution and enhance social interaction through sport and art. The two-day training aimed at developing the participant’s capacities and targeted particularly women like Zeinab who are looking for opportunities of empowerment: “I always want to nourish my passion with experience and knowledge, thus, I educate myself, take courses and acquire certificates”.



F O O T B A L L



After Qudra made her curious about new methodologies beyond her experience in the football field, the 27-year old took an active role during another event organised by Qudra and the NGO Artolution where activities such as recycling, graffiti, story-telling, painting and sculpturing were introduced to provide children spaces to explore their creativity and talents while complementing their academic education. The event was facilitated at one of Qudra's newly rehabilitated schools in the north of Lebanon and encouraged an equal number of boys and girls from refugee and host communities to paint a mural which now represents mutual respect and peace.

Participating in both events made it easy for Zeinab to adapt her knowledge to specific contexts and opened new possibilities: "Even though my background is football, I want to implement life and social skill activities based on the trainings I received". As an example, she recently worked with students on a recycling project where they decorated the school premises with recycled items to raise awareness of environmental issues or initiated a play day for students from Tripoli in the north of Lebanon using the methodology of Spirit of Football and Artolution. "Thanks to Qudra, I had the chance to meet people and realize my ideas". For instance, she met the rapper Mona Haydar who is originally from Syria and together they organized a small workshop

where people got introduced to poetry and story-telling.

To Zeinab it is very important to include girls and women in her activities, because she knows from her own experience that it isn't always easy to convince people about personal abilities and interests. Already as a young girl, Zeinab was passionate about sports such as boxing and football which was perceived as rather untypical, and as she grew older, she had to face many challenges regarding gender stereotypes. Despite the disapproval of some, Zeinab believed that sport should never be gender-biased and always open for everyone. As a living example, she managed to become one of the few female football coaches in Lebanon.

Women like Zeinab are a valuable asset to Lebanese communities since they are role models for other girls and women: When they see that I am implementing and taking part in such activities, I am automatically empowering and supporting them". In addition, she has one last advice: "Nothing is impossible as long as you have a goal and you are determined to achieve it. I know women have additional obstacles to face, but patience is the weapon. I'm glad to reach a state where I can be a role model to girls myself".



IS IT FAIR? CAN YOU PUT YOURSELF IN MY SHOES? WHAT'S IN ME?

These are the guiding questions of the awareness raising event on gender equality in the frame of the International Women's Day. Jointly organised with GIZ LEAD Programme on March 7, Qudra engaged around 100 youth in foundational dialogue about gender equity at AL Saade Technical Institute in Abou Samra located in Tripoli, Lebanon. The awareness session focusing on equality, sensitivity for gender norms and empathy is conducted by consultants from Hayya Bina with the participation of the principal as well as the teachers of the institute.





ONEBALL
ONE WORLD

ave

WORLD

MEET
ZEINAB HALABI



QUDRA

“We are very happy and thankful for the new water network in our neighbourhood. We don’t need to use the water pump anymore to refill the water tanks on the roof”,

says Huda, who is living in Ashty, Suleymaniyah in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq/KRI.

WATER PROJECT IMPROVES THE LIFE OF HUDA’S FAMILY

Huda is a widow and mother of two children. One of her sons is diagnosed with autism. She is a sports teacher in a public school, and it is very difficult for her to make ends meet in the economic crisis. She raises two kids on one salary and only receives half of the salary. To make matters worse, she previously had to pay for clean water.

The Kurdistan Region of Iraq/KRI 



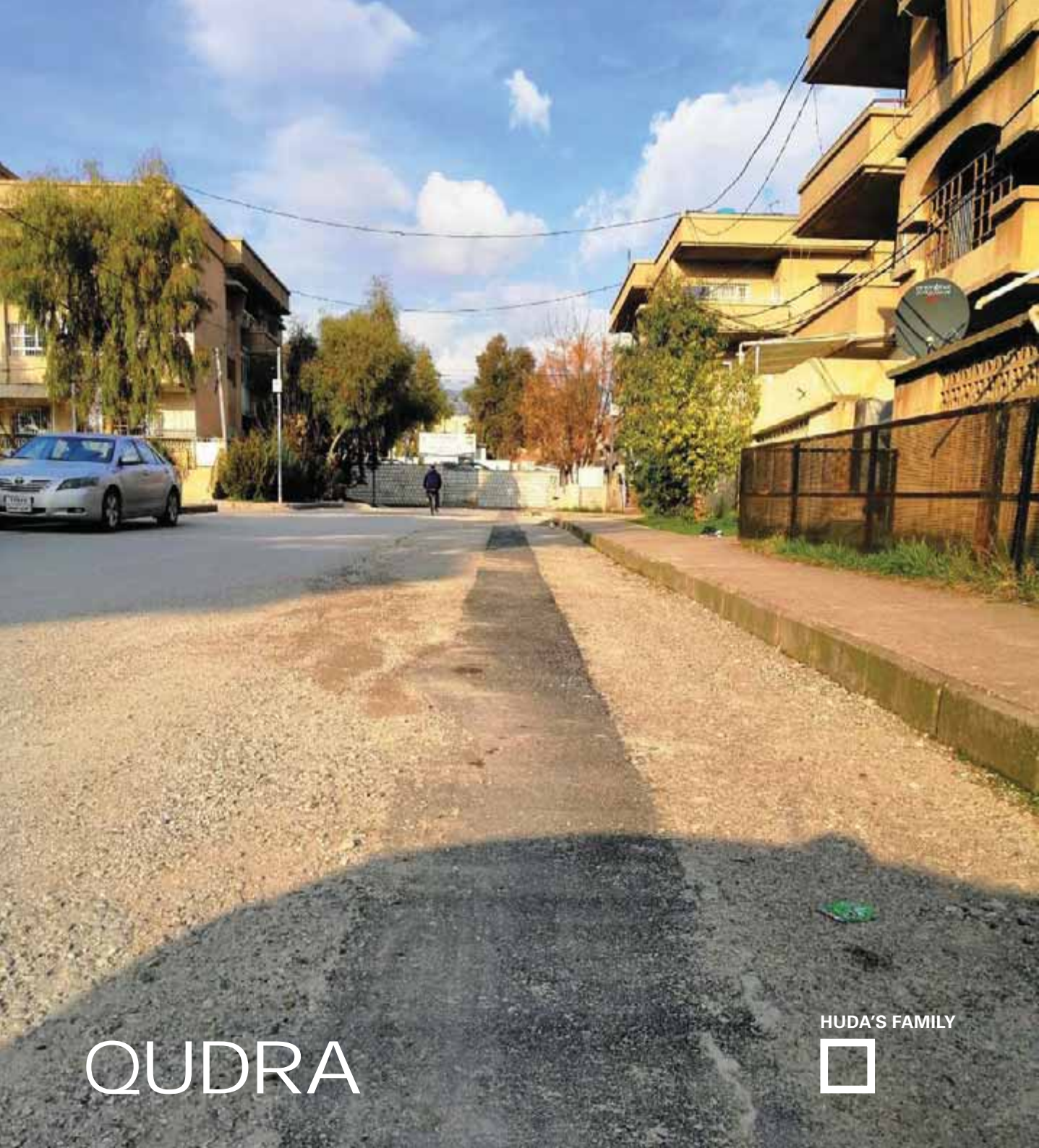
“Before the water project was finalised, we were suffering from the shortage of water. We had to buy water because we couldn’t use the water that was coming from the old pipes, as it was dirty and foul smelling”, Huda says.

OVERCOMING THE SHORTAGE AND POLLUTION OF WATER

As part of its Quick Impact Projects implemented by GLZ, Qudra’s Water Project aims to replace and maintain the water network in Ashty neighbourhood in Sulaymaniyah to increase access to clean water and decrease adverse health effects for communities residing in the neighbourhood.

“Thanks a lot for this project, we got over the shortage and pollution of water”, says Huda with gratitude.

QUICK IMPACT



QUDRA

HUDA'S FAMILY



A NEW LIFE

Asmalı Konak is one of the three centres that Qudra Module 3 in Turkey supports. In collaboration with the Kilis, Fighting Against Poverty and Unemployment Association (Kilis Yoksullukla ve İşsizlikle Mücadele Derneği), these three satellite centres carry out courses and workshops supported by the Public Education Centres (PECs) and implemented by GIZ. Especially targeting women and children, different activities allow members of the refugee and host communities to socialise while learning, producing and interactively sharing.

IN KILIS, TURKEY



ESTABLISHING "SOCIAL COHESION" WITH INTERACTIVE RELATIONS

Hulud is one of the hundreds of women, who actively participate in different courses and activities. She was forced to flee the conflict in Syria with her family seven years ago and now she builds a new life for herself and her children by coming to the centre in Kilis almost every day. Her oldest child participates in IT courses in Ulucami centre, while her two younger children play and learn with other Turkish and Syrian children in the kindergarten.

 Turkey





Asmalı Konak Centre, which has meant a lot to Hulud for several years, now has another new meaning: She had her fourth child here. As her labour had started, she was taken to a hospital with the help of the staff and her friends and gave birth to a healthy baby. After a very short while, she has continued to participate in the courses and activities with her baby in her arms. Now she keeps learning Turkish, hairdressing and cooking with her baby next to her.

“We have been neighbours for years but now we are friends; Hulud’s baby, for example, is our baby now, in the centre”,

says one of the participants of the social cohesion class. For the staff, the manager of the centre and the other course participants, the new-born became “the baby of Asmalı Konak”.

INFORMATION AS
A POWERFUL DRIVER OF

GENDER EMPOWERMENT



Thanks to a bottom-up approach of Qudra by aiming to strengthen social cohesion through access to information, Canal France International (CFI) produces and disseminates video clips based on real human-interest stories as testimonials to deliver accurate information to refugees and host communities. Since the launch of the first information campaign on Employment in Jordan in May 2018, several women have been able to share their experience of resilience through different topics of concern such as labour rights for working mothers, benefits of professional training and solidarity at work.

The female characters significantly help other women in making them aware of their rights and opportunities. They prove that success-stories are possible, and they can become role-models to inspire other women and give them hope and courage.

Disseminated through social media and broadcasted on TV, the information campaigns attracted more than 2 million views on Facebook.

KNOWING HER LABOUR RIGHTS MADE HANAN SUCCESSFUL AS A WORKING MOTHER

Hanan has two children and a full-time job. To succeed in this challenging situation, knowing her rights helped her to combine her jobs as an employee and as a mother.

“My understanding of the labour law made me a stronger woman”, she explains. Her employer notices that a lot of women are not aware of their rights, while “not taking them is like losing them”.



CREATING INITIATIVES BETWEEN SYRIAN AND JORDANIAN WOMEN GENERATED GREAT SUCCESSES

Lara, a Syrian refugee, and Hanan, a Jordanian citizen, together started a small business to provide jobs to both Syrian and Jordanian workers and help local communities that have complementary experiences to share. They targeted women because they have skills in handicraft.

They highlighted their contribution with these words: "We have built connections among communities".



STUDYING TURKISH MEANT THE START OF A NEW LIFE FOR YUSRA

In Turkey, an information campaign on free Turkish Language Courses in Public Education Centres (PECs) will be launched soon. Yusra, a Syrian refugee, had to work to support her family but couldn't find a job because she didn't know Turkish. She studied Turkish in the nearest PEC to her home and consequently has been able to attend a professional training to become a hairdresser.

As more issues affecting women remain to be tackled more video clips are in production. One of them is on protection for women in Lebanon, to help women who suffered from violence to know their rights and inform them about the services delivered for their protection and safety in Social Development Centres (SDCs) of the Lebanese Ministry of Social Affairs.

For more information, Facebook pages in Jordan and Turkey can be followed through the following links:

<https://www.facebook.com/TogetherInJordan>

<https://www.facebook.com/TogetherInTurkey>

SOCIAL COHESION

A WOMAN AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE CRISIS

NOFOUZ TAISYR MOHAMMAD KHADR

As the Director of the Women Empowerment Unit at the Municipality of Ramtha in Jordan, Nofouz leads the implementation of the Community Support Projects Granting Mechanism (CSP-GM) funded by Qudra with 100,000 Euro. Implemented by the Spanish Cooperation, the CSP-GM fosters the participation of civil society in local governance and supports bottom-up approaches in the design and implementation of municipal local development interventions.

MUNICIPALITIES AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE CRISIS

Nofouz is challenged with not only one but three main issues when it comes to the local development. High levels of poverty and unemployment including a high demand from the citizens for empowerment services. To mitigate the social tension between communities due to overwhelmed municipal service provision, Qudra adopted an approach to improve the work between the municipalities and civil society. This approach reaches out to the population intensively and fosters dialogue between Syrians and Jordanians and alleviates social conflicts.



LOCAL NEEDS SURVEY REFLECTING THE VOICE OF THE COMMUNITIES

Qudra conducted a survey on local needs which identified the priorities of the communities. Among others, women empowerment, safe cities for children and youth empowerment with a special focus on persons with disabilities were explicitly highlighted in the Municipality of Ramtha in Jordan.

Nofouz was impressed by the huge turnout after announcing an informative session event through Facebook. More than 20 local organisations participated in the event and debated about the problems of local development and how to adapt the mechanism to the needs of the local community. Most notably, after the event, a total of six projects proposing a solution to the challenges will be approved by a Committee formed of the Mayor of Ramtha, Coordinator of the Spanish Cooperation in Jordan, experts from the Jordanian civil society, Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD) and Partners Jordan.

THE NECESSITY OF WOMEN FOR FUTURE LOCAL NEEDS

After being addressed with the question of future, Nofouz underlined the necessity to invest more in the initiatives of economic empowerment and social cohesion with a long-term approach.

“We have a high number of women working in many departments, such as the registry, local development unit, human resources etc.”, she adds. Nofouz believes that the participation of women in decision-making bodies such as the Municipal Council, is essential to promote the role of women and make their voices heard.



NOFOUZ TAISYR
MOHAMAD KHADR

QUDRA





“I was very surprised by the result of my work after applying the skills I learned”

Payam Farhad

 **The Kurdistan Region of Iraq/KRI**

AN ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT TO BENEFIT FROM

In the Kurdistan Region of Iraq/KRI, it is very challenging for women to work independently and own businesses. Therefore, most of the NGOs opt for providing soft skills training to women to allow them to work from home. Qudra in KRI aims to empower women entrepreneurs by providing training courses followed by non-financial tools supply.

Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA) in collaboration with the European Technology and Training Centre (ETTC) opened a fashion design course for those who already have prior experience in sewing and are ready to start their own business. Giving these women another chance to work from home.

The famous Kurdish fashion designer Ibrahim Ahmad taught the beneficiaries the three main principles of sewing: measuring, fitting, pattern making. Simple artisan skills such as taking accurate measurements and creating stylised sewing patterns may be helpful to empower them and build self-confidence through a self-owned business.

“I was very surprised by the result of my work after applying the measurement in designing a shirt, I always had difficulties getting the right measurement in designing a shirt”, said Payam Farhad, one of the course participants. “But after applying some simple mathematics the results were surprising!”, she said.



QUDRA

شرفا - منوار
رزان - پیمان

PAYAM FARHAD



HOW QUDRA SUPPORTS

JORDANIANS AND SYRIANS IN CREATING THEIR OWN JOBS



"I don't know what the future will bring, since it is hard to find work in Jordan. But my husband and I have this dream to start our own business after finishing the vocational training", Manal says and smiles while wearing her white kitchen uniform – the same uniform that the official staff of the hotel wears where the training takes place. Manal is 36 years old and originally from Damascus, Syria. She came to Jordan six years ago together with her husband Abdelatif due to the war. Manal and Abdelatif are in a class of 20 mainly female Syrians who take part in a one-month self-employment training on food processing. "The programme is very professionally organized and carried out", Manal's husband Abdelatif says. "Actually my wife convinced me to sign up together with her. She is very smart."

The programme, organised by Qudra GIZ in Jordan and implemented by service provider "Education for Employment-Jordan" (EFE-J), aims to address youth unemployment and alleviate poverty in Jordanian host communities of refugees. The demand-driven job placement and self-employment training programmes in cooperation with EFE-J are designed for over 450 Jordanians and Syrians. Through EFE-J, the participants are trained with employers in the butchery, food processing, crochet & embroidery and retail sales industries. They receive hands-on training that meets current labour market needs.





“I want to start my own business in the food sector and thought that this programme might help me get there”, Manal explains. She heard about the vocational training programme through a WhatsApp group for female community leaders and knew right away that she had to sign up. During the programme, Manal learns how to prepare salads and main dishes, how to bake and what the right technique is to cut vegetables and meat with a knife. She feels like she is truly part of the hotel team where the practical sessions take place: She wears a uniform, she cooks in the same kitchen that the hotel uses, and she learns from professional trainers in the food processing sector.

CREATING OWN JOB

The programme targets unemployed Jordanian and Syrian men and women from very low socioeconomic backgrounds living in Jordan. The idea of the project is to offer income generating opportunities through job placement or self-employment, and to promote positive change in the participants’ attitudes and self-esteem over time.

And indeed: When talking to Basima (35), you can see a very positive change in attitude and a lot of self-confidence. Together with her son Jamil (20), she also participates in the Qudra training course for food processing. “I joined the programme, because I love cooking”, Basima says. She already started her own business, a small food shop selling traditional Syrian food. Through the training course, she hopes to develop skills to expand her business. Basima’s

son Jamil currently works part-time in the retail sector. Every day after the training classes end, he leaves for his evening shift. When graduating from the Qudra vocational training programme, he wants to assist his mother in the shop and grow the business.

Manal, Abdelatif, Basima, Jamil and the other training participants will finish the programme by mid-February. In addition to the practical components, they will also receive career guidance and support on how to enter the Jordanian labour market.



A SIMPLE SUPPORT FOR INTEGRATION:

LANGUAGE COURSES

Betül İbo and Zehra Huri are two young girls frequenting the Youth Development Centre in Istanbul coordinated by Expertise France. Both have career plans for their future and they selected courses which will pave the way to reach their goals. After completing the courses successfully, they decided to e strive for university degrees.



**BETÜL: 17 YEARS OLD
WITH 4 SIBLINGS**

Betül is 17 years old. She came from Damascus to Istanbul last year with her family. "Our house was bombed. We don't have a home to go back to. Our future lies in here", she says. They are four siblings: She has an elder brother, an elder and a younger sister. Another elder brother died during the war in Syria.

She had to leave high school because of the war. To resume it in Turkey was not possible as all her documents were left in Syria. Thus, her first goal is finishing her high school degree.

QUDRA REMINDED ME OF MY FORGOTTEN DREAM

Betül also started taking English lessons in the centre. "My friends at the course have a better grasp of English than me. They have been helping me a lot since the very beginning. Attending a foreign language course and learning Turkish at such level, expanded my vision and inspired me to realise my dream of studying architecture again." Betül

ENGLISH

Turkey



ZEHRA: “I COULD HAVE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL AT SCHOOL IF WE WERE NOT OBLIGED TO WORK”

Zehra is 20 years old. Originally from Aleppo, Zehra came to Istanbul with her family four years ago. With a lump in her throat, she remembers herself falling and her best friend dying in front of her eyes during a bombing while on the way to school. When her family lost everything during the war, she left her school to come to Turkey where she graduated from high school.

Her two younger brothers, aged 14 and 17, had to leave school and start working since their father had an accident which prevented him from working. Both are employed as workers in the bag manufacturing sector. With tears in her eyes, she says “We could have been very successful at school if we were not obliged to work.”

Zehra completed the C1 level Turkish course last year. Although she is very fluent in Turkish, she is not self-confident while speaking in Turkish due to her accent. She says visiting the Youth Development Centre also helps improving her accent and fluency since she doesn't have much chance to speak Turkish where she lives.

She has also completed computer aided accounting and entrepreneurship trainings at the Youth Development Centre. “Now, I have already started to share some information acquired during the entrepreneurship training with my elder brother who opened his own grocery store”, she adds happily.

She dreams of becoming a medical doctor with a specialisation in anaesthesiology. She passed the exam successfully entitling her to attend that department at Fırat University Medical School, but her family did not allow her to go there as it is very far away. She will give it another try next year and hopes for acceptance at a university in Istanbul.

With the wisdom of a young girl who keeps the memories of war, she says: “You never know what life holds for tomorrow. So, I try and learn everything that will help me stand on my own two feet in the future.”

For Zehra and Betül, the language and vocational courses provided under the Qudra Programme offer a new beginning and help to build resilience. Breaking the language barrier can help women like Betül and Zehra find their voices, share their stories, and follow their dreams for the future.

HOPE IS BACK TO A RETURNEE FAMILY

□ The Kurdistan Region of Iraq/KRI

“In 2015 we decided to leave the country and have a better life in Germany. For this we had to sell all of our properties to reach Germany with the sale’s revenue.”

Zheeman

Zheeman is a 29-year old married woman with two children. Before leaving the country, she was teaching in a primary school and her husband held a marketing job in a private sector company.

“After one year of our stay in Germany we decided to return to our home country with the help of the International Organization of Migration (IOM). Once we arrived in Duhok we didn’t have any property, it was a very difficult time for me and my husband, as we were unemployed.”

Qudra GIZ in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, through its implementing partner Baghdad Women Association (a local women NGO) found her a job in a nursery in Duhok, KRI. She thinks that it’s a very good job match for her as this allows her to take care of her kids at the same place as well.

“I am so excited now, I don’t need to worry about my kids while I am working, and I can pay the house rent with the salary I am earning from this job. I am the only bread winner of the family and hopefully I will continue working in the nursery”.



QUDRA

A RETURNEE
FAMILY



WHAT DO OTHERS SAY ABOUT QUDRA?

INTERVIEWS WITH PARTNERS AND BENEFICIARIES





LARA I. KHOZOUZ

The Qudra Programme is currently rehabilitating 26 public schools in Jordan, implemented by GIZ. Maintaining the facilities remains a challenge, which is why Qudra contracted a private company to develop a comprehensive facility management model for public schools in Jordan. Lara I. Khozouz is the only woman who managed and established a major facility management company in the Middle East and the only female board member of the Middle East Facility Management Association (MEFMA).

MEMBER OF
EXECUTIVE BOARD -
MIDDLE EAST FACILITY
MANAGEMENT
ASSOCIATION (MEFMA)

 Jordan

Q: Lara, how did you end up in the very male-dominated sector of Facility Management?

L: That is a long story, but I try to cut it short: I came from a very different professional background: I am a civil engineer. But when I started working for the Royal Court in Jordan, I discovered my interest and passion for project management and decided to pursue a Master in this field from George Washington University in Washington D.C. Afterwards, I went into managing projects in the real estate sector and discovered the need for facility management in Jordan. I saw that when developing and constructing new buildings, facility management was not part of the design. It was something that was only seen as a response to the problem not as something preventative. In 2008, I had the idea to establish a company that would focus on everything – so far there were only companies which focused on parts of facility management, for example only on cleaning services or only on maintenance, but never on the whole issue. I wanted to take all

of these services and put them into one “basket”. That was the initial idea. I think the major challenge in Jordan is the lack of awareness: People don’t really know what facility management is and entails.

Q: What are your thoughts on facility management in the public sector, the area in which Qudra currently works?

L: What Qudra tries to do is to improve the learning environment for Jordanian as well as Syrian children. Kids spent most of their time in schools. But you can’t study while being cold or in a classroom that is not well maintained. It is essential to have certain minimum standards in place in all public schools in Jordan. The Jordanian society is a very young society, which means that the demand for public schools is increasing. Maintaining educational facilities needs proper funding. In my opinion, all NGOs and donors should follow Qudra!

Q: Did you ever face any challenges as a woman in the

facility management sector in the Middle East?

L: Of course, it is more difficult for a woman in this business. I believe that oftentimes women have to work harder than men do to reach the same goals. I faced several issues along my professional career. For example, some security guards once commented on the fact that a woman was the general manager of the company. But whenever I face this kind of criticism, I say: You are raised by a woman, you are educated by women, you are married to a woman, you are constantly getting advice from women in your life. Why is it so shocking then that women can also lead businesses?

Q: If there was something that you would advise other women who want to succeed in the facility management sector, what would it be?

L: Never lose hope. Your efforts and hard work will be recognized and rewarded eventually. Pass all challenges until you reach your goal.

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Resilience for Syrian refugees,
IDPs and host communities in
response to the Syrian and Iraqi crises

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QUDRA

LARA I. KHOZUZ



Interview with
Hussein Abu Sheikh
Mayor of Ramtha, Jordan

□ Jordan



QUDRA IN ONE WORD

HUMANITY

Q: What's the meaning of QUDRA for you as a mayor?

H: It's an instrument to enhance the social cohesion and harmony between Jordanian communities and Syrian refugees. At the same time, it is an opportunity to improve the capacities of our municipality to deliver fair and equal services and meet the needs of the whole population, both the host communities and our Syrians brothers and sisters.

What does QUDRA mean for the community?

Qudra and the Spanish Cooperation experts promoted diverse initiatives with woman empowerment units and the civil society. Also, from a more technical point of view, it reinforced our abilities to provide the community with better services, for instance in the energy sector with the future installation of a LED lighting system.

What's Qudra in one word?
Humanity.

What's the main impact of the Qudra Programme in your municipality?

It can be understood in two different directions which are interconnected: internally, in the sense that it helped us to carry out a more successful management of our resources, and externally, because through that we have been able to improve our services in support of the community and adopt higher quality standards.

SUCCESSFUL MANAGEMENT



How do you foresee the future of your municipality?

I see a bright future for the Municipality of Ramtha. For instance, the adoption of the budget programming approach will have a strong impact on our work and this will be reflected in better results. In addition, I want to thank Qudra because it went through sensitive issues for the municipality and gave us the opportunity to create the basis to keep improving and learning in the future.

What's the main challenge for your municipality in the next future?

The most important challenge is about being able to change the mentality of the citizens and enable them to understand the importance of the changes which have been implemented. Basically, we must be able to convince the community to accept these changes and provide the citizens with tools to adapt easily to the new reality.

INCREASING THE SAFETY WITH LED STREET LIGHTING SYSTEM



Waleed is an engineer at the Municipality of Ramtha in Jordan and he was responsible for coordinating the preparation phase before the installation of an environmentally friendly LED street lighting system by the Spanish Cooperation. In an interview, he explained all the different steps he and his team carried out and highlighted why this project will be successful both for the municipality and the community.

Interview with
Waleed Bashabsheh
Electric Engineer in
Ramtha Municipality, Jordan

Which practices did you apply during the preparation phase?

Firstly, we made an inventory of the entire lighting system in the municipality, to identify the areas and units which could be subject to the shift. We used GPS to find out where every lamp was and calculated the width of the streets to decide on the most efficient intervention. Then, we chose a neglected neighbourhood, close to the Syrian border, the one with the oldest mercury lamps and the highest levels of consumption and costs.

What was the biggest challenge you faced?

One of the biggest challenges we faced was enabling the citizens to understand the technical aspects behind the decision to intervene only in some zones and not in all of them.

How would you describe the importance of this preparation?

The idea behind this phase of preparation was to carry out a strategic intervention to assess and measure the impact this change would provoke. According to the calculations we made, the saving in terms of energy consumption will be around 50 percent in the streets subject to the intervention.

What were your expectations for the LED lighting systems?

We have considered not only the economic aspect of this intervention, but also criteria of social well-being and safety. In fact, in some streets, for instance, there were only five functioning units. So, we decided to replace them with more lamps with less consumption. The result is a higher illumination at the same cost. This will have an important social impact, increasing the safety of the citizens and ensuring a higher visibility and consequently less accidents.





WALEED BASHABSHEH



QUDRA



E-DIWAN A DIGITAL WAY FORWARD

□ Jordan

As the Director of the Municipal Registry Service in Ramtha, Ola played a key role in the definition of the priorities and co-design of E-Diwan, the project which is implemented by the Spanish Cooperation to support the digitalisation of services.

Interview with

Ola Taisyr Khawaileh

Director of the Municipal Registry Service in Ramtha, Jordan

What is the implementation status of E-Diwan and your expectation about the outcome?

E-Diwan is being implemented progressively. In April, we expect the implementation to be finalised. It entails a relevant change of the way the municipality works. In fact, the digitalisation will speed up the provision of services, improve the response to the citizens' needs and the organisation of all the documents.

How do you think it would affect your work?

Many times, the citizens ask for old documentation which is very difficult to find, and this reflects a bad image of the work of the municipality. However, they do not understand that what is missing are the tools to deliver a better service. Therefore, it is important to raise the awareness of the citizens about the importance of implementing a digitalised registry containing all the documents.

Is it only about digital archiving?

E-Diwan is not only about registering and archiving, it also allows us to track at any moment where a document is and what its status is. The last amazing improvement linked to the implementation of E-Diwan is that you can access it from any device, and you can work from everywhere!



QUDRA

OLA TAISYR KHAWAILEH



LED

LIGHTING

AS A MAJOR ENERGY SAVING

Interview with
Mowafaq Al Mashagbeh
Financial Director of the Mafrq
Municipality, Jordan

 Jordan

Our Spanish Cooperation colleagues talked with Mowafaq Al Mashagbeh, Financial Director in the Municipality of Mafrq, about the savings which will be generated through the installation of LED lightings. Thanks to the support of Qudra, 2,800 LED units (out of a total of 18,000, which is the 15 percent) were bought and this will generate an immediate saving which will improve the economic state of the municipality.

What do you expect with the installation of the LED lightings?

In Mafrq, the annual consumption of public lighting is around 1,200,000 JOD. Nowadays there are 40 transformers which make up 55 percent of the total consumption of the municipality, and this is where the investments are directed. Therefore, the installation of 2,800 units will result in a significant reduction of consumption.

What are your main challenges regarding the economic management in Mafrq?

The lack of efficiency! However, Qudra is having a strong impact from this point of view, especially thanks to the implementation of the budget programming approach. Other aspects to be improved are the private-public relations, increasing the agreements and the resources for long-term projects such as social housing, green spaces and industrial zones.

QUDRA



MOWAFAQ AL MASHAGBEH





"I was very satisfied with the event because more than 150 representatives of civil society have participated. Also, only 10 days after the event, 55 organisations have already collected the documents to present a project."

IN MAFRAQ, WE PRIORITISE THE EMPOWERMENT OF YOUTH,

WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Jordan

Emad is Qudra's focal point in all the activities at the Local Development Unit in the Municipality of Mafraq. Moreover, he is responsible for the coordination with all the departments and partners involved in the project as well as with the Spanish Cooperation. On February 13th, 2019, an open day was organised in Mafraq, during which the requirements of the call for proposals and the results of the questionnaires were presented.

Interview with
Emad Al Doughmy
Director of the Local Development Unit
in Mafraq Municipality, Jordan

What is the next step?

The call for proposals is being very satisfactory in terms of the number of applications received. The expectations of the civil society organisations are very high. The role of the municipality will focus on collecting all the proposals and leading an analysis as it was done in Ramtha and Sarhan. In Mafraq, the municipality opted for prioritising the implementation of actions that can reach the highest number of citizens, such as the empowerment of youth, women and children.



QUDRA

Assistance for Syrian refugees,
and host communities in
and Iraqi crisis

QUDRA

EMAD AL DOUGHMY



BUILDING TRUST WAS

OUR KEY CHALLENGE



Al Keram Charity Association is one of the seven organisations which are contributing to mobilising both host communities and refugees to actively engage in addressing local development challenges in the Jordanian municipalities where Qudra Module 4 is focusing its efforts, implemented by Spanish Cooperation.



Interview with
Najah Ahmad Al Jaber Al Oueedat
Head of Al Keram Charity Association in
Al Mafraq City, Jordan

This group of local civil society organisations has been trained by the project on issues such as good governance and decentralisation legal framework, the role of civil society in national processes, and the building of social cohesion and sustainable development. These organisations have also been key actors for the implementation of a participatory budgeting process and on development of the needs surveying exercise completed in the municipalities of Ramtha, Sarhan and Mafraq. The surveys collected the opinions and priorities of nearly 6,000 citizens.

Najah Ahmad Al Jaber Al Oueedat is the head of the Al Keram Charity Association based in the Southern neighbourhood of Mafraq where most of the residents are Syrian refugees.

What are your memories from the beginning of the arrival of Syrian refugees to Mafraq city?

Our association was one of the first local organisations that realised the urgency of mobilising the community to provide basic services and support to the high influx of refugees that started to arrive in Mafraq City in 2013. Syrians arriving and lacking the basic needs increased tension in the population. Once the situation was relatively stable and the more urgent needs among the Syrian population had been covered, the Association started to address the increasing need for information, awareness and training of their new neighbours. Integration for a good coexistence among host communities and Syrian refugees was one of the highest priorities in their work.



What are the challenges that civil society organisations are facing nowadays in supporting Syrian and host communities?

We are facing many challenges in our work with refugees, although they have become part of our communities nowadays. In the beginning, building trust among the Syrian newcomers was the key challenge. The population we have here in Mafraq comes from rural areas in the South of Syria, therefore they had their own perception about civil society work. Aspects like gender were a challenge in our field work. We had to learn how to set up our field teams to be able to access their households and identify the specific needs of each families. Nowadays, they actively engage in our activities.

We have Syrian women volunteers and other women are working in our community support kitchen that provides meals for Syrian families in high need of support.

What is the current situation of Mafraq’s civil society?

In Mafraq we have more than 200 civil society organisations serving the population, however high levels of poverty and unemployment are badly affecting both communities. While the financial support of international donors is quickly decreasing, the needs of host communities and Syrian refugees are still many, and the current situation suggests that these communities will stay with us for a long time.

SHORT NEWS

FROM ALL OVER THE REGION





JORDAN



Together with Luminus Education, Qudra organised a Career Day on January 16th, 2019 under the patronage of the Ministry of Labour in Jordan to provide a platform for young Jordanian and Syrian trainees to meet with potential employers. Over 750 vocational training participants attended the event and over 60 percent of the ones who were surveyed, said, that they had an on-the-spot interview with one of the companies present. Throughout the day, the trainees were participating in a CV clinic, career counselling and workshops on how to start businesses. Until now nearly 2,000 trainees have completed their training under Qudra successfully and have received certificates on the semi-skilled (or skilled) worker level.

“Awareness Sessions” were held for three weeks to inform and teach the students about the open space and how to engage to keep the school clean.



A LED lighting system guide in the three municipalities is published.

Qudra’s Module 2 in Jordan trained 27 women as technical assistants for renewable energy. In total more than 1,000 female trainees have been trained until today in various sectors such as hospitality, food processing, beauty care, garment and marketing.

Qudra started working on a comprehensive approach for facility management in Jordan by signing a new agreement to develop a model for public schools. 48 participants from the directorates of the Ministry of Education were introduced to the pilot project and discussed specific roles and tasks within the model.

Trainings on public lighting conducted in Mafraq, Sarhan and Ramtha, Jordan.



3,000 LED units in each municipality installed.

Within the framework by the Ministry of Interior in Jordan and in collaboration with All Jordan Youth Commission, two two-day seminars about youth’s participation in the context of the decentralisation process will take place on March 11th-12th and 13th-14th, 2019 in Irbid and Mafraq.

Guides on budget programming and digital registry published.

Meetings regularly ongoing at the Municipality of Ramtha in Jordan on the digitalisation of the municipal services (E-Diwan) which will allow citizens to receive a copy of all the documents submitted at and issued by the municipality along with the respective registration numbers.

Training conducted on excellence in delivery of public services were best practices from Qudra: E-Diwan tool was shared.

بلدية الرمثا الجديدة
مكتبة الشياح



QUDRA

JORDAN



SHORT NEWS FROM


KURDISTAN REGION OF IRAQ



From January 27th to 31st, 2019, Qudra conducted two workshops on Disaster Risk Management (DRM) for the Joint Crisis Coordination Centre's (JCC) Crisis Response Offices in the governorates of Slemani and Duhok.

Qudra replaced more than 400 electricity poles and renewed electricity lines in more than 30 locations. By modernising or replacing 33 power transformers now 15 deep wells are connected to a table power supply. More than 200,000 persons benefit from improved power and electricity supply. Water and electricity mean health, hygiene and safety.

In cooperation with the Halabja Governorate and the Directorate of Agriculture, Qudra supported the construction of the weekend market as a Quick Impact Project measure. Clarisse Pásztozy, Head of the EU Liaison Office in Erbil attended the opening of the Halabja weekend market and pointed out the market's advantages: an income source for the agricultural sector allowing local farmers to sell their fresh products and compete with imported ones, the strengthening of the local economy, the individual health benefits fresh produce provides, the fact that local produce means less transport and less environmental pollution and that the market is a place to meet, chat and interact.



As part of Quick Impact Projects (QIP), Qudra supported the rehabilitation of the orthopaedic unit at the hospital with painting, renewing floors, replacing water drainage pipes, and repairing the oxygen generation equipment by exchanging broken parts. Furthermore, a third operation room was enlarged to also enable major surgeries. "All three operation rooms are equipped with an oxygen system that contributes to improving the success of each operation", Dr. Khaleel adds before he rushes back to the operation room, where the next patient is already waiting.

KURDISTAN REGION
OF IRAQ



QUDRA



On February 2nd and 3rd, 2019 Qudra conducted a training for the trainers in wall-papering in Batroun in cooperation with Practice oriented Vocational Education Training (VET) project in Lebanon. Participants came from technical institutes, 2 teachers from Tripoli and 2 teachers from Batroun.

SHORT NEWS FROM

LEBANON

In cooperation with ProVTE project, three teachers from the Technical Institute in Choueifat and two from the Technical Institute in Tripoli participated in a Training of Trainer Programme (ToT) in painting indoors walls based on the competency-based training curriculum. Following the ToT, an assessment by Apave Goupe took place in order to evaluate the qualification of the teachers, who then conducted the competency-based training in painting.

Under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) in Lebanon, Qudra is rehabilitating 9 Social Development Centres soon to be handed over to the respected authorities to foster social stability between refugees and host communities.

A training workshop on protection, child protection and combating Gender-Based Violence was held by the Ministry of Social Affairs in Lebanon.

“Basketball for All Camps” is organised and implemented by SAFE, a Lebanese local NGO, under the Qudra Module 1. The aim of the camp is to strengthen the relationship between Syrian and Lebanese students through learning basketball skills and participating in team building activities.

45 participants from the Ministry of Social Affairs and local NGO’s attended the “Tuteurs de Resilience” training in Beirut focusing on the most fundamental concepts of applying resilience processes by fostering participants’ skills to promote the beneficiaries’ empowerment perspective.

Qudra engaged around 100 youth in foundational dialogue about gender equity in an awareness raising event jointly organised with GIZ LEAD Programme.



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Community Art Event and Protection activities organised by the Ministry of Social Affairs in Social Development Centre Ain El Remmaneh Beirut with the support of Resource Center for Gender Equality (Abaad).

الجمهورية اللبنانية
وزارة الشؤون الإجتماعية
مركز الخدمات الإنمائية - عين الرمانة



Lebanese Republic
Ministry of Social Affairs
Ain El Remmaneh



The Qudra Programme is a regional action financed by the EU Regional Trust Fund in response to the Syrian crisis, in the Lebanese Republic (Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development 2002) seeking to strengthen resilience for Syrian and Iraqi refugees in Lebanon and Iraq. The programme is jointly implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Coopération France, and the Ministry of Social Affairs of Lebanon. 2015 and 2016.

QUDRA

LEBANON



SHORT NEWS FROM

TURKEY

The 3rd Round of the EU Madad Innovation Labs Turkey kicked-off in Istanbul. This time the participants will seek innovative solutions to empower women and foster gender equality.

Followed by a certification ceremony for teachers from Ankara, Hatay, Kilis and Gaziantep, an advanced training of trainers' programme on "Teaching Turkish as a Foreign Language" from January 21st to 25th, 2019 was completed in Bursa, Turkey with the participation of the representatives from Ministry of National Education (MoNE) and the Qudra Programme. 82 teachers received participation certificates.

On February 15th, 2019 EU MADAD LABS II "Youth and Digital Innovation" participants from Turkey, attended Qudra informative sessions on how to proceed with their prototype implementation in terms of finance and contracting.

Qudra participants of the Antakya Nedime Keser Halk Eğitim Merkezi (PEC) established a "Qudra Friendship Choir" composed of Syrian and Turkish members. The choir sings 20 together songs in Arabic and Turkish, all with a common cultural background.

In cooperation with the Expertise France and International Blue Crescent Humanitarian Relief and Development Foundation (IBC), a 'Project Cycle Management' training was carried out. The aim was to make Syrian and Turkish young people more sensitive to social problems. Hosted by the Municipality of Küçükçekmece in Istanbul, young people shared their observations on social problems and will continue to work together with an interactive group to produce solutions.

QUDRA

Resilience for Syrian refugees: (DPR) and
Post-conflict reconstruction response to the Syrian and
Iraqi crisis.

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QUDRA

TURKEY



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Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn

GIZ Office Ankara

Aziziye Mah., Pak Sk. No. 1/101, 06680 Çankaya/Ankara, Turkey

T +90 312 466 70 80

F + 90 312 467 7275

E info@qudra-programme.org

I www.qudra-programme.org

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Responsible

Dagmar Blickwede, Module Team Leader SO5:
“Facilitating Dialogue and Dissemination”

Editor

Didem Ayberkin Yüksel, Communications and Media Officer

Proofreader

Ute Lange

Writer(s)*

Kazhal Ahmed, Ebru Anse Sile, Didem Ayberkin Yüksel, Margaux Bonnet, Sireen Jalloul, Fadi Kakony, Malena Knauth, Deniz Menteseoğlu, Rebecca Paulus, Michele Pitta, Maria Tarancon and all the Qudra Programme’s partners and beneficiaries who provided their stories.

**Ordered by surname*

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On behalf of the Communication and Visibility Team under the Module 5, a heartfelt appreciation to all our Qudra Programme colleagues from Module 1 to Module 5 in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Kurdistan Region of Iraq, for the mere co-operation, time, and spirit they put on their valuable work.

Didem Ayberkin Yüksel

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Postal address of BMZ offices

BMZ Bonn
Dahlmannstraße 4

BMZ Berlin
Stresemannstraße 94

53113 Bonn, Germany
T +49 (0)228 99 535-0
F +49 (0)228 99 535-3500

10963 Berlin, Germany
T +49 (0)30 18 535-0
F +49 (0)30 18 535-2501

poststelle@bmz.bund.de
www.bmz.de

Website

English : www.qudra-programme.org
Turkish : www.qudra-programme.org/tr
Arabic : www.qudra-programme.org/ar
Kurdish : www.qudra-programme.org/ku

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