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# USAID/Jordan & Gender Mainstreaming

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# Gender Integration: The Case of Jordan

## Jordan: Country Facts



- **Population:** 5,700,000
- **Literacy:** M: 95.5% / F: 85.9%
- **% Working Women:** 27.6%
- **Women Suffrage:** 1974
- **Women's Fertility Rate:** 3.7

Freedom House: Country Report - Jordan

## Status of Women in Jordan



- **Equal rights:** entitlement to health care, education, political participation, and employment.
- **Denied Equal Rights:** Nationality and citizenship, gender-based discrimination in Jordan's family laws, provision of government pensions and social security benefits. Violence against women remains a serious problem.
- **Key Achievements:** A National Strategy for Women, a National Strategic Plan for Family Protection Against Family Violence, and the provision of a quota for women's representation in Parliament and the Municipality.

## Disturbing Statistics

- 40% of Jordanian youth surveyed find honor crimes “justified”.
- 44% Females found restricting a woman’s movement is “justified in some cases”
- (36.6%) of females preferred to be born male!

study conducted by Freedom House, where a total of 1000 male and female respondents between the ages of 18 and 25 surveyed

## USAID Approach

USAID Objective: support the development of an enabling environment for increased economic growth and a better quality of life for all Jordanians.

USAID Jordan’s program addresses gender inequities in 2 ways:

1. **Dedication of a Women’s Rights Program implemented by Freedom House:**
  - Improved civil society advocacy and collaboration for reforms that address women’s rights
  - Increased youth awareness of women’s rights
  - Increased availability and improved quality of sustained legal and social services provided to women in crisis.
2. **Integration of gender considerations as a central crosscutting theme in all programs:**
  - conduct gender assessment at start of each project
  - tailor projects to meet specific gender needs
  - include gender-related indicators in performance monitoring plans
  - collect and disaggregate data by gender

## Issues we are Tackling

In order to advance women's rights, USAID Jordan works towards:

- Breaking down stereotypes regarding negative perceptions of women
- Promoting Entrepreneurship
- Empowering women through decision making
- Facilitating access to the Job market
- Providing Access to Justice

## Programs Snap Shot



## Breaking down Stereotypes



Creating Dialogue through a Gender Equality Campaign



Combating the Tradition of women not working outside the home: "Siyaha" Wadi Rum Program

- 37 women working on handicrafts production
- 8 women working in managerial positions at CBO.s
- 10 women received loans began their own home-based businesses, creating 16 new job opportunities

## Promoting Entrepreneurship



graduation of 94 female ICT and Career Development and Business Capacity trainers from Irbid and Karak.



A graduate of NAJAH, a Youth Training and Employment program opening a hair salon

## Decision making - Empowerment



- Women as educators for water conservation.



- Educating couples on Family Planning.

## Access to the Job Market



- “Maharat” Internship Program:
- Training for 916 females
  - Employment for 386 females in Amman, Irbid, Zarka and Aqaba.



Promoting the Nursing Profession among 600 young girls who participated in a nursing public awareness campaign

## Access to Justice



- Trial Observation Program of so called “Honor Crimes” and Violence Against Women cases.