

Issue 3, January – March 2009

Welcome to the third issue of the King Hussein Foundation and Noor Al Hussein Foundation quarterly e-newsletter. Please feel free to forward to a friend or colleague who might also be interested.

Highlight



Queen Noor and the recipient of the King Hussein Leadership Prize, Robert Freling, at the awards ceremony. Photo courtesy of Michael Brands, The Aspen Institute.

» King Hussein Leadership Prize 2008

Award Honors Leader's Transformative Impact on the Environment

The 2008 King Hussein Leadership Prize was awarded to Robert Freling, Executive Director of Solar Electric Light Fund (SELF), who has been called an 'eco-hero' for his leadership in bringing green energy to rural villages around the world. In presenting the award, Her Majesty Queen Noor said, 'Mr. Freling is a visionary leader working at the intersection of environmental stewardship and sustainable human development, whose work has had a transformative impact on the quality of life, opportunity, and the security and stability of communities around the world. SELF helps whole villages leapfrog from no reliable energy to affordable, green power that in turn provides access to other basic rights – clean water, education, healthcare and economic empowerment.' [Read the full article.](#)

Spotlight

» Qudorat Phase II

Exhibition Showcases IGP Products

The national program Qudorat, funded by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, staged an exhibition of products and services of 87 income-generating projects (IGPs) in March as the program's second phase came to a close. The exhibition is the culmination of efforts by Noor Al Hussein Foundation and Jordan River Foundation in equipping community-based organizations (CBOs) with the means for work efficiency, employment provision and financial sustainability. The program consisted of capacity building in institutional development and basic business skills. On display were the products of 87 income-generating projects belonging to CBOs; a selection of these were the first women's fitness centre in Madaba, an eco-tourism hiking equipment service, a concentrated fodder factory, a heating equipment factory, medical clinics, sheep farms, and an agricultural services outlet. [Read the full article.](#)



One of Qudorat's income-generating projects in Tafileh: an agricultural services project that rents out tractors for ploughing fields. Photo by Adam Bader.

» IRD Humanitarian Award

Recognition for Supporting Victims of Conflict

In recognition for Queen Noor and the Noor Al Hussein Foundation's work with victims of conflict, including refugees and internally displaced peoples, Her Majesty Queen Noor was presented with a Humanitarian award by International Relief and Development (IRD). In accepting the award, Queen Noor also outlined the work of the Institute for Family Health (IFH) which, in partnership with IRD, UNHCR and other international NGOs, has been providing healthcare services and psycho-social support services to thousands of displaced Iraqis in Jordan since 2006. [Read the full article.](#)



Local female councilors attend capacity building training in Kerak.

» Community Development Program

Local Councilors Demand 2nd Round of Training

Local woman councilors have requested a second phase of more detailed capacity building conducted by Noor Al Hussein Foundation's Community Development Program after the first phase was found to be extremely useful. Local woman councilors have also asked that the training include their male colleagues. The training of local woman councilors was launched last year in cooperation with Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, in rural municipal councils representing Jordan's 12 governorates. The project trained 178 local female councilors and was successfully completed in August 2008 over 8 months. By the end of the 2-year training program, local councilors will be equipped with full knowledge of municipality law, identification of community needs, communication and financial management skills. [Read the full article.](#)

» Theater of the World Festival

PAC Represents Jordan with 'Memoirs of a Woman'

The National Center for Culture and Performing Arts (PAC) of the King Hussein Foundation was the featured international company at this year's Theater of the World Festival in San Diego, California. The PAC's interactive theater troupe performed 'Memoirs of a woman' a social-issues based play about domestic violence while the PAC Dance Troupe performed a traditional Jordanian folk dance. 'The theme of the play was not a divisive issue between west and east,' Lina Attel, director of the PAC, said. 'The issue of domestic violence', she said, 'is a global one and the international audience were able to closely identify with it'. [Read the full article.](#)



A scene from Memoirs of a Woman, a play dealing with domestic violence.

» Language and Culture

Jubilee School Joins Global Network

Jubilee School students will now have access to German language classes thanks to an agreement with the Goethe Institute to join the worldwide network 'Schools: Partners of the future' for the teaching and learning of the German language. 'As we celebrate the tenth anniversary of the King Hussein Foundation, we are very proud today that the Jubilee School, one of its key institutions, is launching a partnership with the Goethe Institute to enrich the school's diverse educational program,' Queen Noor said during the signing ceremony. 'Language is a valuable

» Psycho-social Services

Interactive Theater Promotes Cultural Diversity

The Noor Al Hussein Foundation is leading in the provision of psycho-social services in the country offering medical, social as well as overall mental well-being support to displaced Iraqis. As part of this effort, and in order to overcome tensions between displaced Iraqis and Jordanian youth at local schools and to promote cultural diversity, the National Center for Culture and Performing Arts (PAC) in cooperation with the Institute for Family Health (IFH) have developed interactive psycho-social theater to open channels of discussion between displaced Iraqis and Jordanian youth,

window into other cultures, and into international understanding and relationships'. The Jubilee School's diverse academic and cultural exchange programs promote openness to other cultures and societies around the world. [Read the full article.](#)



A Tamweelcom client wraps up dairy products to sell to her customer. Photo by Adam Bader.

» Regional Training in Yemen

Project Cycle Management Workshop

The Capacity Building and Business Development Services unit (CBBDS) was contracted by the European Commission (EC) delegation in Sana'a, Yemen to conduct a three-day training workshop on Project Cycle Management for 20 civil society organizations, and around 40 participants. The CBBDS team set off to Yemen in late March with a target to empower participants on the formulation and methods of proposal writing within the guidelines of the EC, which includes writing concept notes, logical frameworks, descriptions relating to relevance of action and to sustainability within institutional, policy and financial levels. The workshop also included training in budgeting and monitoring.

and to promote social integration. The plays were created as part of a UNHCR program entitled 'Contributing to the decrease of psycho-social distress and social isolation of displaced Iraqis', and are being performed in Amman, Zarka, Madaba, Irbid and Salt. [Read the full article.](#)

» Tamweelcom

Impact on Human Lives

The Jordan Micro Credit Company, Tamweelcom, has recently undergone a social performance audit in order to monitor the effects its internal system is having on its clients. Social performance management (SPM) helps to determine if the processes and internal systems within a microfinance institute achieves its social goals. Also, a survey conducted by the International Labour Organization (ILO) Social Finance Program has reviewed Tamweelcom's performance in issues that directly affect their clients and their work conditions. [Read the full article.](#)

But more than anything else, the impact of Tamweelcom is reflected in what the clients have to say. Here are some of [their stories.](#)



Participants in the project cycle management workshop in Yemen.



An entrepreneur talks about her experience with the Aqaba Micro Business Incubator during its official launch.

» Aqaba Micro Business Incubator

AMBI Commences Operation

When Um Ahmad started her tailoring business she was not prepared for the amount of business skills even a small tailoring trade required. Having heard about the Aqaba Micro Business Incubator (AMBI), a project funded by the Aqaba Community and Economic Development (ACED) program/USAID, she decided to sign up for training in basic business skills. During her training, she met two other women with similar interests and together they wrote a business plan for evaluation by the AMBI. Their tailoring scheme was selected into the micro business incubator for full use of the incubator's business facilities and support services. Um Ahmad's team was offered technical and managerial training in addition to the use of workstations with a variety of office equipment and exposure to marketing and promotional techniques. [Read the full article.](#)

Updates

Information and Research Center

The **Information and Research Center's (IRC)** research project on changing public opinion by removing the 'honor' perception from 'crimes of honor' has created a steering committee comprising 15 senior representatives of stakeholders and target groups.

The research team has also started on the first stage of the research project by collecting data, drawing results and determining causes. The project, funded by the European Commission, seeks to look into economic and educational factors and other poverty indicators associated with the crime.

Findings of the study will be disseminated to targeted groups through focused media, a dedicated interactive website, education seminars and other means of communication.

Institute for Family Health

Training for the **Institute for Family Health's (IFH)** first specialized trauma treatment center in Jordan is underway. The center will provide interdisciplinary rehabilitation services to victims of trauma and will be a regional model that fully adheres to international standards and protocols. IFH staff is being trained in physiotherapy as well as in integrated psychiatry/psychology focused on psychopharmacology, interdisciplinary treatment and assessment, diagnosis and treatment formulation, screening tools (psychology and outreach), and an introduction to intervention and staff self-care.

Trainers will also coordinate and hold meetings with local experts and stakeholders in the field of mental health in Jordan. Training is being carried out by experts from the Rehabilitation and Research Center for Torture Victims (RCT), funded by the government of Denmark.

On the Agenda

Contemporary Dance Festival

As part of its mission to promote cultural exchange programs, expand theater and dance movements in Jordan and the region and make culture accessible to all, the National Center for Culture and Performing Arts (PAC) of King Hussein Foundation is hosting the Amman Contemporary Dance Festival with the support of the Royal Netherlands Embassy and the Greater Amman Municipality. At this year's festival, to be held from 20–22 April, three well-known contemporary dance companies will be performing: Kyung-Shil Choi from Korea, Mancopy from Denmark and Giulia Murredu from Holland. The festival aims to provide local artists and audiences with exposure to new aesthetics and techniques of international contemporary dance.

Music Training

King Hussein Foundation's **National Music Conservatory (NMC)** in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Development and the Embassy of Netherlands will begin training on wind instruments to 17 youths from Dar Shabab in Shafa Badran. The instruments are donated by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) through the Embassy of Korea.

Classical Concert

The National Music Conservatory will be participating in the Holland Festival with a classical concert on 15 April. The concert will include the performance of Christian Kuvnhoven on piano and Sabine Canton on harp along with the Amman Chamber Ensemble.

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