

School Rehabilitation in Jordan

March 2018



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

FACTS & FIGURES

Jordan Population

9.9 million
(Department of Statistics 21.12.2017)

Syrian refugees in Jordan

> 657'628 (UNHCR, 04.02.2018)

Syrian refugees of school age in Jordan

> 126'127 are enrolled in camp schools
and public schools in host communities
(UNICEF, Oct.-Dec. 2017)
> 85'160 currently out of formal school
(UNICEF, Oct.-Dec. 2017)

Budget

CHF 5,785 million (incl. CHF 1,050,000 from
the Principality of Liechtenstein)

Duration of Project

June 2012 to July 2019

Beneficiaries

Phase 1-3 completed:

Total of 58 schools (in different govern-
orates, including Amman) for 50,000
Syrian and Jordanian students between the
ages of 6 and 17.

The total number of Syrian students regis-
tered in these schools is around 6,700.

Ongoing:

The ongoing 4th phase is covering 20
schools (10 schools completed), hosting
approx. 22,000 students, including around
4,500 Syrian children.

Achievements

- Protective school environment
- Access to education for Syrian
school children
- Improved hygienic situation
- Mitigating tensions between local
population and refugees
- Technical assistant to MoE and privat
sector

Partners

Jordanian Ministry of Education; Right to
Play; Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internatio-
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nian University GJU

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Girls and boys schools rehabilitated in Jordan



Rehabilitation of Schools in Jordan

Despite strong progress in previous decades, Jordan's education system continues to face challenges that have been amplified by the Syrian refugee crisis. Low access to quality early childhood education, poorly trained teachers and school leaders without pedagogical practice, unfriendly learning environment in overcrowded classrooms, coupled with a weak maintenance system are key contributor to the poor student learning outcomes at all levels. Serious concerns also exist about the increase in student-to-student violence and disruptive behavior, including vandalism, harassment, bullying and gender-based violence. Economic pressure weighs heavily on many families, affecting the capacities of parents to provide orientation to their children, causing frustration and anger on both sides.

Of the 211,000 school-aged Syrian boys and girls registered as refugees, 126,000 already enrolled in public schools. However, there remain around 85'000 Syrian refugees of school age who are in non-formal education or out of school. In a joint effort with the international community, the MoE pursues an ambitious plan to assure accelerated access to formal education for 50'000 out-of-school Syrian refugee children, through additionally established 206 double shift schools and through expansion of classrooms.

Recognizing the essential role that access to education and of a burden sharing, the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) launched in June 2012 a school rehabilitation project with the Jordanian Ministry of Education (MoE).

The current phase was launched in May 2016, based on lessons learnt from previous phases. It aims at contributing to an improved and safer learning environment through non-structural rehabilitation of 20 public schools hosting Syrian refugee children. The scope of work includes the rehabilitation of the schools' rooftop, the sanitation units, door & windows as well as the repairing of the electrical installations. Safety and security concerns and the access of disabled students will remain in the focus as well as technical support to the MoE to manage the rehabilitation work.

As in previous phases, the project will comprise an awareness-raising component on maintenance, sanitation and hygiene conditions, implemented by the non-governmental organization Right to Play. Through collectively developed activities, the school management, teachers, students and janitor will identify the schools' needs, delegate roles and responsibilities, strengthen their communication mechanism and thus gain a higher level of ownership. Regarding water and sanitation, a close collaboration in two pilot schools is currently ongoing with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit German (GIZ). In order to include the academia in the planning process, SDC signed a collaboration agreement with the German-Jordanian University. 20 third year students from the architectural department supported the planning process during the fall semester 2017.

"In several classrooms, there were no seats or tables for the students; now, with what we've received through the project, I can open more classrooms."

School Principal in Ramtha

"I am very happy at school; it's so beautiful, all bright and shiny!"

Bushra, refugee girl from Daraa