

## Monthly Report for September 2014

Date: September 8, 2014

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### **Component I: Sub-Awards In Support Of Jordanian Civil Society Initiatives**

- **Activity I.A. DRG Grants:** FHI 360 provided support to DRG grantees as well as attended selected grantee events. Greyscale completed its pilot episode for the second season of 209 King Hussein Street and held focus groups to capture feedback on the new format. CDFJ held sessions with key stakeholders on the status of laws related to media as well as UPR linkages. HCAC brought together HCD and MoSD to coordinate efforts to design a joint quality improvement system for PWD care centers. Other grantees continued with their prep/research phases.
- **Activity I.B. Partnerships for Jordan's Development (PJD):** 35 CSOs from Zarqa applied to PJD, after which subcontractor Schema selected 23 to participate in the first series of corporate social responsibility workshops in September. Private sector engagement stalled, though, which the President of the Zarqa Chamber of Commerce attributed to tough local and national economic situations, commenting that companies which previously contributed to social development efforts now focus on youth employment instead. Schema's aggressive recruitment efforts yielded 48 private sector commitments for the September 25 kickoff, but only 18 participated.
- **Activity I.C. CIS APS:** The grants team continued due diligence with Round I applicants bringing the total to five awards. Per AOR discussions, FHI 360 completed meetings with the 13 medium applicants that scored between 60-69, resulting in recommendations for four full awards and four partial awards pending availability of funds. Meanwhile, FHI 360 and the Arab Women Legal Network agreed to postpone finalizing the large award until AWLN completes the research phase of its project which is funded by UN Women. Round 1 stats include:

#### *Snapshot of CIS Round I Applications - Status as of September 30, 2014*

Grant Size	Total Applications	Total Eligible	"A" List for GEC	GEC Shortlist	Due Diligence	Dropped	Awarded
Small	66	50	25	19	17	7	4
Medium	90	63	32	20	7	1	0
Large	93	79	36	5	4	0	1
Budget Missing	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>

By the September 15 Round 2 deadline, a total of 310 applications were submitted with 261 eligible. Preliminary internal review of small applications began, already revealing that Round 2 proposals seem more responsive and comprehensive vis-à-vis the APS. A total of 55 Round 1 applicants applied to Round 2 with some resubmitting the same proposal and others providing new ones. 18 organizations applied with multiple proposals. 20 informal groups applied despite no longer being eligible, with other applicants exceeding the budget ceiling or failing to submit required paperwork. Round 2 stats below include CDCS themes and type of applicant.

Type of Applicant (Non-Unique)	Total Applied	Eligible
CBOs	138	115
Non-for-profit companies	64	61
For profits	60	57
Informal	20	0
Cooperatives	14	14
NGOs	11	11
Coalitions	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>261</b>

All Eligible Applications by Applicant's selected CDCS Sector	Total Applied	Eligible
Economic Development and Energy	75	53
Education & Youth	70	57
Democracy, Rights & Governance	47	44
Population & Family Health	42	38
Water and Environment	35	29
Gender Equality & Female Empowerment	22	21
Other (not able to specify the sector)	19	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>261</b>

### **Component II: Capacity Building for Sustainability**

- **Activity II.A.1: Targeted Technical Assistance to USG-Funded Sub-Grantees:** FHI 360 continued piloting the Institutional Capacity Assessment (ICAT) with DRG grantees Greyscale, HCAC, SIGI and IRC. We also drafted ICAT reports for Al Hayat, Phenix and CDFJ. Planning for follow-on support through their DRG grants began. The pilot phase revealed how beneficial the tool is but that it is time-intensive and demanding for both the CSO and FHI 360 (as facilitator). Required amendments to the tool were identified and revisions are underway.

FHI 360 conducted the first phase of "Certification of M&E Training Providers on the Organizational Monitoring & Evaluation Foundations Curriculum." 8 out of the 12 participants successfully completed the TOT so FHI 360 decided to provide as many opportunities for certification and will organize two back-to-back "Organizational M&E Foundations" courses next month with each two trainers co-training either Part A or B.

As part of its Year II workplan submission, FHI 360 created a catalogue of open courses for CSOs and began recruitment for its “Proposal Writing and Project Design” workshops to take place in Ajloun, Madaba and Ma’an in October and November. These governorates were selected due to the low rate of submission/grant awards from Round 1 of the CIS Fund APS.

- ***Activity II.A.2. Internal Strengthening for Change Project (ISC):*** IDAs for 27 CSOs in Aqaba, Tafila, Karak, Amman, Irbid and Mafraq were conducted. ISC subcontractors began Phase 2 recruitment for CSOs in Madaba and Zarqa (JRF); West Amman and Balqa (NHF); and Ma’an, Qumeish and Marka in East Amman and South Badia (Al Thoria), including governorate-level meetings being held to introduce the program. A refresher TOT was held for ISC trainers to confirm revisions to the Societies Toolkit curricula/CD, strengthen delivery of course material, and capture lessons learned from Phase I. Trainers also reached a common understanding of how to implement the hands-on exercises to ensure that CSOs benefit from the CD and its resources. ISC subcontractors requested that FHI 360 deliver a TOT course on dialogue education for trainers new to the methodology. Joint development of the strategic planning curricula continued, with FHI 360 providing detailed feedback to JRF and NHF, particularly on integrating gender considerations into the process. Planning began for the TOT in October.
- ***Activity II.B: Institutional Strengthening FundAPS (ISF):*** The GEC met to review eligible applications from Community Media Network and Jordan Green Building Council, with the latter being conditionally approved pending more information on the need for ISO certification. ISF grantee JIOD submitted its final milestone - a strategic communications plan developed by an external consultant - which FHI 360 rejected for not being satisfactory. JIOD appreciated the feedback, after which it requested that the consultant resubmit the plan. For grantee Al Thoria, FHI 360 secured USAID approval for non-expendable equipment. By the deadline of September 30, 10 applications were received, a significant increase due to direct marketing efforts.
- ***Activity II.C: Societies Empowerment Program:*** No activity took place this month.

### ***Component III: Enhancing Government-CSO Engagement***

- ***Activity III.A: Enhancing the Capacities of Registry & GOJ Civil Society Staff:*** Subcontractor Enconsult began work on the cost-benefit analysis. Also, the Registry SG gave FHI 360 the go-ahead to procure services of a subcontractor to develop a new Registry strategic plan. The solicitation targeted nine Jordanian firms with public sector and civil society strategic planning experience; six submissions came in by the deadline. The GEC, including two FHI 360 staff and a Registry Council Member designated by the SG, decided to invite the three top-listed applicants to an oral presentation proposals to the Registry SG and GEC after the Eid.
- ***Activity III.B: CS Research Fund&III.C: Dialogue for Change:*** No activity scheduled.

### ***Cross-Cutting Initiatives***

- ***Activity IV.A. KMS:*** Conducted a workshop for USAID staff on the Sub-Award Tracking System and summarized USAID staff feedback for AOR consideration. Provided ongoing support for IPs in data entry to the system.
- ***Activity IV.B. Coordination:*** Coordination with other USAID IPs (Jordan Competitiveness Project, Mercy Corps, Takamol and J-CAP) took place, with initial plans defined for customized capacity building and collaboration on ICATs. Participated in PAP close-out event; launch of EU civil society program with the Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs, and UNICEF’s workshop on the national rollout of its anti-violence-in-schools initiative. Met the British Council to explore collaboration in the areas of disability rights and anti-violence.
- ***Activity IV.C. Gender, Inclusion & Environment:*** Gender consultant mentored DRG grantees as well as held initial sessions with shortlisted medium and large CIS applicants to ensure integration of gender in final grant designs. FHI 360 held a staff workshop on gender utilizing actual grantee projects as case studies for inclusion strategies.. FHI 360 held several meetings with HCD staff to design the upcoming U.S. Study Tour and to discuss terms of reference for potential consultant to support the evaluation of the national disability strategy as well as one to assess HCD’s accessibility strategy.
- ***Activity IV.D. M&E:*** FHI 360 held a customized M&E workshop for DRG grantees as well as CIS fund shortlisted applicants as well as designed a survey to capture feedback on the ISC for Round 1 graduates.

### ***Next Month***

- Ongoing/TBC: Continue due diligence/award CIS APS grants; continue review of Round 2 applications; plan GEC with AOR if possible; and conduct GEC for Registry Strategic Planning assignment
- October 14-16 (Ajloun) and October 28-30 (Ma’an): Proposal Writing & Project Design Workshops for CBOs
- October 15: ISC TOT Workshop on Strategic Planning Curricula
- October 24-27 and 28-30: Certification of M&E TOT Program – M&E Fundamentals Course for CSOs