

### Quality Education for Young Syrian Refugees in Jordan

## Project Overview

### ***Sustaining Quality Education and Promoting Skills Development Opportunities for Young Syrian Refugees in Jordan***

is a 3 year project funded by the European Union. The project aims to address the challenges posed by the continuing influx of Syrian refugees on the quality of education in Jordan.

The project has two main components:

- Upgrading the training of the teaching force and related personnel.
- Providing demand driven educational, informal/ non-formal and skills development opportunities to Syrian and Jordanian youth affected by the crisis, which includes a census to better understand the future learning needs of Syrians residing in Jordan.

By promoting the quality of teaching in schools with mixed populations of Syrian and Jordanian children, this project benefits displaced Syrian children as well as Jordanian children attending presently overstrained schools. Jordanian teachers, school supervisors and Counselors have benefitted from the trainings with upgraded skills and strategies for teaching based on internationally recognized standards for education in emergencies and post-conflict.

The youth skills development component benefits Syrian youth residing in both Za'atari refugee camp and in urban areas in addition to Jordanian youth living in urban areas with limited opportunities for schooling, recreation, mentoring and skills development training.



Children involved in UNESCO's IFE programs

- Over 400 MoE Supervisors and Counselors trained as trainers
- 2,000 MoE Public School Teachers trained on new pedagogical practices
- Over 2,000 youth benefitted from Non-Formal Education, Informal Education and Youth Mentoring activities
- Initial phase of the Jami3ti initiative completed, with over 2,000 Syrians having started to create education profiles about their learning needs.



Students of teachers who participated in UNESCO programming

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#### IFE in Host Communities

The Informal Education Project in Host Communities is currently underway. The Middle East Children's Institute (MECI) has created three informal education centers in Irbid Governorate (North Jordan) to reach out-of-school children between the ages of 6 and 12.

The project will:

- Create educational opportunities for Syrian refugee children
- Enhance student well being and personal growth
- Promote community education and engagement among program families and staff.

UNESCO is excited to work with this partner, and will be sharing more information about the project once activities start. MECI will undoubtedly have a positive impact on the host communities it is serving.



#### Project Site Underway in Zaatari Refugee Camp

By early July, UNESCO will have finalized the development of its new project site in Zaatari Refugee Camp. The District 10 site will provide space to implement Informal Education, Youth Mentoring and Higher Education projects over the coming months.

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## UNESCO Jami3ti Initiative



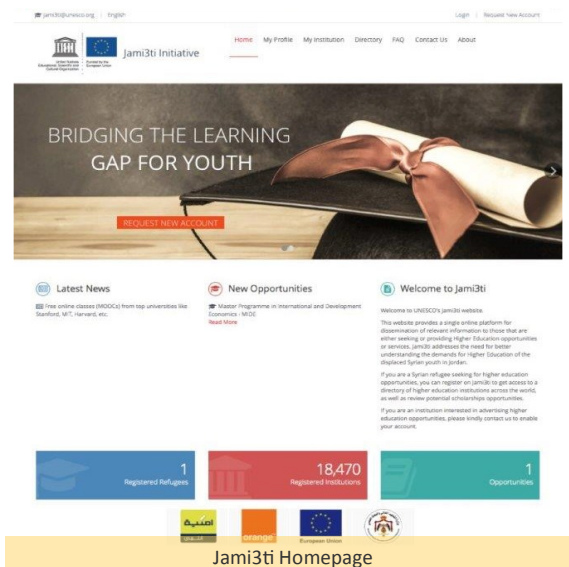
UNESCO Representative to Amman, Ms. Costanza Farina

Under the patronage of H.E. Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, UNESCO hosted an event on 25 June 2015 in Amman to present the findings of the EU-UNESCO Jami3ti initiative. This initiative, which is generously funded by the European Union, seeks to better understand the post-secondary and higher education needs of Syrian Refugees in Jordan. The event brought together over 60 representatives from the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, UNESCO, the European Union Delegation, institutions of Higher Education in Jordan, international and local organizations, and foreign embassies.



Ministry of Higher Education Secretary General, Hani Dmour

Jordan continues to receive refugees as a result of the on-going crisis in Syria, which began in March 2011. Syria's future depends on preparing today's youth for the task of rebuilding their society by addressing the demand for continuing education after the secondary level. To date, however, the specific information needed to better provide opportunities for Syrian refugees has not been sufficient. Current statistics present only aggregated figures—not enough to match refugees with relevant opportunities. In order to respond to a critical need, it is essential to better understand the educational history of Syrians refugees as well as their future learning needs.



Jami3ti Homepage

As noted by UNESCO Representative to Jordan Ms. Costanza Farina, "For most of the last four years, Higher Education has not been seen as a priority for international support in the context of the Syria crisis. However, granting continuous higher education opportunities for Youth affected by the conflict is critical, if we want to build a robust human capital base that can effectively and positively contribute to the future reconstruction efforts in Syria and ultimately to peace and security in the region." The Jami3ti initiative was developed to address this information gap for Syrians between the ages of 16 and 30. The specialized Jami3ti website ([www.unesco.org/jami3ti](http://www.unesco.org/jami3ti)) allows Syrian youth to create individualized education profiles and providers of opportunities a central place to advertise their opportunities. The information collected will assist the response to the Syrian crisis by providing data on the Higher Education needs of Syrian refugees. And it will help Syrian youth connect with potential educational opportunities.

"This is a very first step in a journey that will bring young Syrians, many of them having an interrupted study, back to forms of higher learning. The launch of this portal is an important milestone in responding to the challenges facing the Syrian people's future", Ambassador of the European Union, Joanna Wronecka stated in her speech.



Ambassador of the European Union, Joanna Wronecka

For more information about the initiative, please visit: [www.unesco.org/jami3ti](http://www.unesco.org/jami3ti) or contact [Jami3ti@unesco.org](mailto:Jami3ti@unesco.org)

## Featured Story: A Shelter in a Teacher's Heart



It was going to be a typical school year, with typical lesson plans and typical classes. However, it wasn't. It was 15 August 2013. The Syria crisis was at its peak and waves of refugees were arriving in Jordan. Under a project funded by the European Union, the UNESCO Amman Office began offering a professional development training course to prepare teachers for the Syrian students that would be entering Jordanian public schools. I was one of the lucky teachers involved.

One August day, Raneem, a fifteen-year-old girl opened her eyes in a new country. She had to walk on different roads, go to a different school and make new friends, leaving behind all the warm memories that she once had in Syria. Until we met, Raneem was shy, unsociable and anxious. It was then that I realized the tremendous impact of the professional development training I had received. Understanding the needs of traumatized children, after all, is not an easy task and managing an inclusive classroom takes a certain skill. By applying the new techniques I learned during the training course, I was able to engage Raneem in classroom activities and focus on her needs.

Raneem did not only improve academically, she also improved socially. She made a few friends and they used to walk the same roads to school and life suddenly became colorful. They laughed together, dreamt of a better planet where everyone can be sheltered and live peacefully. One day, Raneem told me she wanted to chat. She cried bitterly and she told me that her family had decided to move to Germany and reside there permanently. I validated her fears, and found myself telling her that it doesn't matter where we go; what matters the most are the hearts that shelter us. I asked her to start keeping a diary and she promised that she would become a famous writer one day. She left peacefully after filling the home within me with joy. My heart will never be an empty home; there is always a shelter for those who need it.

### In the News

#### EU-UNESCO Jami3ti Initiative:

[UNESCO Amman Site](#)

[Jordan Times](#)

[Roya TV](#)

#### Other Project Highlights:

[A Shelter in a Teacher's Heart](#) (EU)

[A Shelter in a Teacher's Heart](#) (Jordan times)

### Project Team

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