

SUPPORT TO MEDIA IN JORDAN



Newsletter June 2016

The Support to Media in Jordan team would like to wish our colleagues, partners, and the media community a peaceful and happy Ramadan. Ramadan Kareem!

IN FOCUS: UNESCO–EU funded project kicks off new community radio initiatives



On 31 May, we visited two new community radio initiatives in the Mafraq and Zarqa areas, Attaya Charity Organization and Al Al Bayt University. Over the last several months, UNESCO consultants and media experts Ayman Bardawil, Sawsan Zaidah and Mohammed Rayyan have been working on assisting seven new initiatives, including the two mentioned above, in the governance, managerial, content and technical aspects of setting up a radio station.

[Read more about the new initiatives here.](#)

What else happened?

UNESCO-EU funded project launches training for radio reporters in Amman and Aqaba

At the beginning of June, thirty Jordanians from six community radio stations participated in journalism training programs in Amman and Aqaba with the aim of re-launching a news and sports radio national program. UNESCO partner **Community Media Network** is training journalists from different governorates of Jordan in basic journalistic skills, radio recording and editing as well as counseling in terms of professional ethics and legal guidelines regarding Jordanian slander laws. Jordan News Network and Jordanian Playfields programs will be launched in the second half of July on all six participating stations.

UNESCO organizes pilot training on ATI Law

On 11 May, UNESCO organized an Access to Information (ATI) pilot training for information officers in key government ministries at The National Library in Amman. Conducted by Toby Mendel, UNESCO consultant and international media law expert, with the support of Yuhia Shukkeir, UNESCO national consultant, the training involved members of several ministries. Based on the recent legal analysis conducted by Mendel on Jordan's ATI Law, and the draft ATI training manual, the pilot training covered all aspects of the Law, including submitting information requests, responding to requests, engaging in the appeals process, technical requirements, classification of documents, records management and staff training.

What else happened?

UNESCO holds briefing on legal reviews for government officials

On 9 May, UNESCO organized a briefing for government officials at the Media Commission to share the results of the legal reviews of three pieces of legislation conducted by UNESCO consultant and media law expert Toby Mendel. The meeting was hosted by Dr. Amjad Al Qadi, General Manager of the Media Commission and coordinated with the support of the office of the Minister of State for Media Affairs, Mr. Mohammad Al Momani. Representatives from both Houses of Parliament, the Media Commission as well as the National Library were among the participants in the briefing. "The workshop was very valuable, and we hope that the meeting will make our colleagues more open minded on further developing the laws and applying them accurately on the ground," noted Dr. Hamza Basbous from the Prime Minister's Office.



World Press Freedom Day celebration

On 8 May, under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Rym Ali and in partnership with the EU Delegation in Jordan, UNESCO Amman celebrated World Press Freedom Day with a lively panel discussion hosted by the Royal Film Commission. The discussion focused on the link between freedom of expression, access to information, and the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the digital age. The celebration was one of several events that week that focused on access to information in Jordan (see previous summaries for details) and our online discussion (#WPFD2016) was trending #1 on Twitter in Jordan that day.

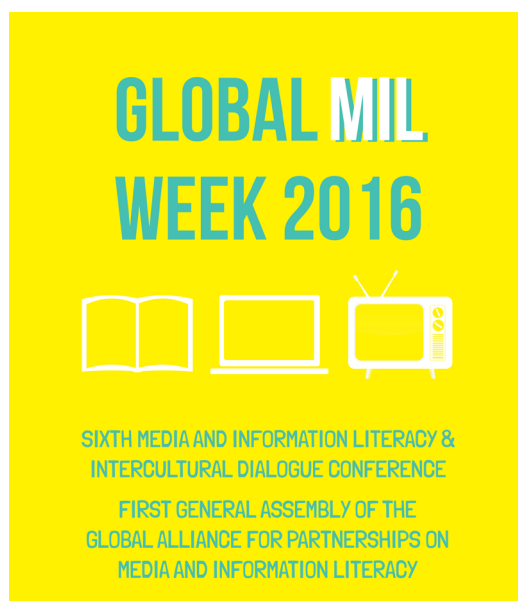
See more photos from the WPFD event [here](#).

SPOTLIGHT: Introducing our project partners – Jordan Media Institute

Jordan Media Institute (JMI) is the Kingdom's leading higher institution providing a highly regarded Master's level journalism program. In partnership with the project, JMI has launched the Media and Information Literacy (MIL) initiative. Media literacy is defined as the ability of citizens to access, organize and analyze information and create texts, images and sounds through all available media platforms. The activity aims to contribute to capacity development of national educational institutions in MIL and to transfer skills to new generations of students, in addition to raising awareness and increasing knowledge among decision makers, opinion leaders and society.



Read more about the project on our website:
UNESCO and JMI launch Media and Information Literacy (MIL) project



UPCOMING EVENTS:

28 September, global: International Right to Know Day

12 October, Amman: MIL book launch at Jordan Media Institute

2-5 November, Rio de Janeiro: UNESCO Media and Information Literacy Global Week

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