

SUPPORT TO MEDIA IN JORDAN



Newsletter

April 2016

Over the last several months, the Support to Media in Jordan (SMJO) team has been busy with the start of phase II of the project, which will translate the key media priority areas identified in the previous stage into concrete activities. Ten calls for proposals (individual consultancies, expressions of interest and partnerships) on the themes of broadcast licensing, community radios, legal framework, entry level journalism education and media and information literacy were released in December 2015. Partners were selected at the beginning of 2016. Over the next several months, we will be featuring our partners and their projects in the newsletter, on our website and Facebook page. Stay tuned for more details.

IN FOCUS: Promotion and visibility

of MDI Study



The MDI study has been widely disseminated throughout the Kingdom and beyond. In November 2015, three presentations of the MDI study were organized for faculty members and students at Yarmouk University, Middle East University (MEU) and Petra University. "This is a must read for every media student in Jordan" said Dr. Ezzat Hijab, Professor at the Faculty for Communication at the MEU. Middle East University

will include the study into the compulsory literature for their students. Hard copies of the study in Arabic and English were also widely distributed to more than 100 stakeholders in the media community in late 2015. In January 2016, students at Petra University also organized a debate around the MDI study recommendations.

The full report is available in English and Arabic and can be downloaded here:

http://stmjo.com/en/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/JordanMDI_EN_small.pdf (English)

<http://stmjo.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/MDI-Jordan-AR.pdf> (Arabic)

What else happened?

The SMJO Team is once again complete. Ms. Biljana Tatomir took over as the new Project Manager (Senior Project Officer) on November 1, 2015 and Ms. Lidija Sabados started as the new Associate Project Officer for Communication and Coordination on April 6, 2016.

SPOTLIGHT: Introducing our project partners Canal France International – CFI

On the topic of entry-level journalism education and quality training for media professionals, UNESCO's project partner CFI - Canal France International is working with Ecole supérieure de journalisme (ESJ) de Lille, to provide technical assistance to Yarmouk University and Middle East University in the update of journalism education curricula to meet international standards and the needs of the Jordanian media industry. ESJ is a highly respected institution and has a unique media diploma program of 50:50 academia and practical training.



The CFI team was in Amman this month and is working on the development and provision of increased access to systematic quality training for media professionals, building on previous efforts, reviews and best international and regional practices in line with the Government of Jordan expectations. The project is drawing heavily from the UNESCO Model Curricula on Journalism Education that ESJ has worked closely on in past projects.

UPCOMING EVENT: World Press Freedom Day

On **May 8, 2016** the UNESCO Amman office will celebrate **World Press Freedom Day (WPF)** with a lively discussion followed by a musical performance at the Royal Film Commission (invitation only). The theme of this year's global event is "Access to Information and Fundamental Freedoms – This is Your Right." Participants in the debate include H.E. Dr. Mr. Mohammad Al Momani - Minister of State for Media Affairs, H.E. Deputy Ms. Kholoud Khatatbeh - Head of the Lower House Committee on the National Guidance and Media, Mr. Mosab Shawabkeh - Manager of Investigative Journalism Unit Radio al-Balad, Mr. Yahia Shukkeir - Media Law Expert, Mr. Toby Mendel - Media Law Expert, UNESCO Consultant, and Ms. Rana Sabbagh - Executive Director Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism (ARI). The discussion will be moderated by Sami Hourani, Director and Founder of Leaders of Tomorrow. The SMJO Team will be on hand during the event to distribute copies of the MDI study and share information about the project. More to come in the next issue.

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