



Land Of peace

Center For Development and Human Right

Profile 2022

Fellow respected humans,

Distinguished gentlemen,

Based on our human responsibility towards mankind, we at Land of Peace Center for Development and Human Rights act in partnership with all those who share our goals and aspirations to face all challenges to human dignity that act as a test to our spirit of universal citizenship and to alter our positioning around the narrow individualistic concept of (me) to the wider global concept of (we). We also believe that the basis for successful action is human and moral responsibility.

Among the most important challenges behind most global conflicts is the absence of a community peace system at the level of the family, state and the globe. This concept acted as a driving force for Land of Peace Center to help enforce existing elements that help build a community peace system in this regard such as religious and noncustomary community systems, as well as international conventions. The center also aims at activating such systems in a way that helps widen the scope of peace and narrow the scope of conflict. This cause calls for participatory and integral group action to achieve public benefit and collective interest. Also, in the context of the expanding vacuum caused by political, religious, ethnic and racial disputes, it is necessary that all those with a high level of awareness around the globe coordinate and network through global civil society institutions. Therefore, Land of Peace Center was a pioneer in this scope through its coordination with community peace builders and its conducting of various workshops, seminars and conferences around the globe, as well as its implementation of various local sustainable projects that place the foundations for collective action against arising disputes in conflict areas and volatile regions where community violence is common in all forms and shapes.

to achieving mental and intellectual immunity among global citizens and aspires to protect human lives against the seeds of violence that destruct communal peace. Therefore, the center's slogan is "We sow love to reap love".

Dr. Emad Zgol
General Manager

Introduction:

Land of Peace Center for Development and Human Rights was established in 2014 by a group of ambitious youth and individuals with past experience in the development field. The founders aimed at foreseeing the needs of their society, attempting to eliminate pockets of poverty and rehabilitating and spreading awareness among their community members in areas related to gender-based violence.

Also, in the framework of the center's continued developing course of action, it has used a participatory methodology in setting its strategic plan for the years 2020- 2023 after organizing (3) workshops to review and develop the basic elements of the structure and framework of this strategic plan. Such elements include its role, vision, values, strategic fields, results, indices and projects. Also discussed were the procedures that help ensure the plan's good governance.

In the context of its preparations for setting the strategic plan, Land of Peace Center's team also worked on diagnosing the center's internal and external environments using the modified (SWOT) analysis. The team also carried out an evaluation of institutional capacities in (5) areas as follows: administrative, financial, governance and employee affairs.

This is a living document which shall be updated annually at the end of each year and progress on its achievement shall be measured every three months through follow up and evaluation meetings.

For purposes of transparency, this document can be accessed through Land of Peace Center's website.

In addition to the above, a rising discourse of hatred and extremism was noticed, as well as the role of such discourse in raising the levels of violence and violent extremism around the world. Also, limited political participation, especially on the local level and among women, youth and marginalized and minority groups was noticed. Moreover, sustainability was diagnosed as one of the most important challenges internally, especially in light of limited resources and funding. Also diagnosed was the need to continuously develop and improve internal systems and procedures and to develop the knowledge and skills of workers and volunteers.

The Center's Work:

Based on the above diagnosis and in light of the work Land of Peace Center has carried out since its establishment in 2014, during the past five years we have worked on facing gender-based violence from a human rights perspective, therefore, producing a discourse combatting that of hatred, extremism and violence. We have also built a network of volunteers in most governorates and have established global partnerships in areas such as preventing extremism and violence and facing gender-based violence.

Our work is mostly characterized by our direct intervention with our target groups and our ability to respond rapidly and accurately to their needs relying on actual analysis and communal participation to ensure the continuity and sustainability of our results. This is clear from the pioneering projects we have implemented in previous stages. Our work is based on evidence and experience and is based on our strong connection to the local Jordanian situation. We at Land of Peace Center comprise a qualified and well-trained team that believes in the community issues it works on solving and carries out social work passionately and professionally in various fields.

Our Role:

Our role at Land of Peace Center is to **“Amplify what is common and work positively despite differences and variations through building communal peace, spreading an alternative discourse to that of hatred, extremism and violence, building and empowering the capacities of marginalized groups most vulnerable to abuse, enhancing governance and sustainable development, especially in the area of local administration, enhancing monitoring and follow up of human rights, and building the capacities of the Land of Peace Center for Development and Human Rights’ family and team.”**

Our Vision:

We at Land of Peace Center are **“builders of communal peace and sustainable development for a society based on a culture of peace”**.

Our Values:

Land of Peace Center's team was founded based on several values that control and direct its work and which constitute the guiding principles that drive its work. The most important of these values are:

- **Accepting Variety and Difference:** Each human being is unique in his/her nature. However, difference between people must not lead to disputes and conflict and should rather lead to variety in a way that contributes to the development and prosperity of a society by building on all that is common and mutual.

- **Dialogue and Cooperation:** The essence of communal dispute transformation must be dialogue and solutions should stem from the parties themselves to achieve their interests and meet their concerns. The values of Land of Peace Center encourage mutual gain and profit and discourage negative competition. The motto for competition at our center is a "win-win situation". There shall be no losing parties at Land of Peace Center as communal development requires a participatory approach that is based on dialogue and cooperation between all groups involved in the various levels of the developmental process.

- **Amicable Settlement of Disputes:** Our values stress that dispute transformation and communal peace building cannot be achieved without peaceful and amicable means far from violence which destroys individuals and societies alike. Therefore, enhancing alternative and amicable means in dispute resolution in a participatory and cooperative manner in cooperation with communal actors is a vital part of our work and a guarantee for achieving communal peace and sustainable development.

- **Equality of Rights and Opportunities between Men and Women:** Women in Jordan shape approximately 47.1% of the population (more than 5 million women), whereas, there is still a large gap in rights and available opportunities between the two sexes. Therefore, as well as equality being a human right, it is also essential for achieving communal peace and for achieving the full potential of the whole society.

- **Flexibility and Focus on Results:** Our work in a global environment characterized by uncertainty and the rapid changes we are facing demand a sense of flexibility in carrying out work and implementing programs, as well as a focus on results. Our management of our programs and projects relies on the (Agile Project Management Model) which maintains flexibility on one hand and works to achieve planned results on the other.

Strategic Fields of Priority

In the framework of the participatory methodology, Land of Peace Center's team defined the strategic fields of priority which must receive focus during the next three years. Each strategic field was defined along with its significance and all the results of our work in that field. Also determined were the most important qualitative and quantitative indices used to measure the development achieved in each result and strategic goal as explained in the following :

➤ Communal Peace and Dispute Transformation

Considering the rising levels of violence and its social effects both quantitatively and qualitatively on all sectors of the Jordanian society, especially in regions hosting the largest number of refugees in Jordan, it has become necessary to work in a strategic and sustainable manner to limit the phenomenon of violence and to place the foundations for communal peace and serious dispute transformation in the society.

It is also necessary to work hand in hand with legislations related to the groups most vulnerable to abuse and to follow up the implementation of such legislations. Work is to be carried out with local partners and the donor society to implement the activities of the Jordanian National Action Plan for Advancing the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, especially those related to the third goal calling to take into consideration the needs of refugees most vulnerable to abuse. This shall help achieve security and peace in the refugee camps and the hosting communities.

The third strategic goal calls for the provision of humanitarian services that respond to and take into account gender-based requirements such as (psychological, social, legal and medical services) and that facilitate safe access to such services, especially by Jordanian and refugee women and girls who are most vulnerable to violence and who are in need of protection in the hosting communities and refugee camps located in Jordan.

The German "Firil" Center for Studies mentioned in a study issued in 2016 that around 4Jordanians had joined terrorist groups in Syria and that most of them had been killed or lost.

Combatting extremism in all its forms and shapes and protecting the society against its dangers and effects by spreading moderate thought, opening channels with extremist individuals to help rehabilitate them and change their behaviors, building a society that rejects extremism, purifying the media and ensuring that there are no messages that encourage extremism, and setting plans required to limit the spread of extremism and eliminate it completely shall be among the highest priorities.

Continuous work should be carried out to monitor social media outlets and to create a public opinion that opposes extremist thought that targets the society. Extreme ideas promoted through social media have largely shrunk compared to the period between 2012 and 2015, especially after the defeat of terrorist organizations operating in Iraq and Syria. Therefore, work will be carried out with local partners and the donor community to implement the activities of the Jordanian National Plan for Advancing the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, especially activities related to the second goal calling for engaging women, local leaders, active youth and others in rejecting extreme and violent discourse. The second strategic goal calls for the active participation of women in preventing extremism and violence and in achieving both national and regional peace. The center's objectives include working on safeguarding persons with special needs (the deaf and dumb) against extreme thought as this group of society is largely subjected to targeting by terrorist groups.

Outcomes:

- **Improved precautionary measures when dealing with violence, hatred and extremism.**

Indices:

- Level of violence, hatred and extremism in the local community
- Peoples' views towards violence, hatred and extremism.

- **Larger number of gender-based interventions**

Indices:

- No. of programs and projects based on the violence, hatred and extremism index
- No. of evaluated projects.

Projects :

Early warning system to protect from and counter hatred, extremism and violence discourse- Alternative discourse to be (produced and published) through social media outlets- Instagram. Facebook and Twitter- Community dialogue- Interactive theatre at schools, especially mixed schools including local and refugee students- Building the capacities of local actors in areas of dispute transformation and communal peace building- Gender-based violence (I am not a joke)- Early prevention of extremism among the youth in partnership with the Communal Peace Center and other local actors to promote a smooth approach when dealing with violent extremism- Networking with global actors in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Maldives in the area of creating an anti-discourse that is alternative to the extremist discourse and to violence and hatred.

➤ Economic Empowerment of Groups most Vulnerable to Abuse and Marginalization

There is a need to develop comprehensive programs aiming at empowering youth economically. This program shall be implemented at the local level to maintain performance, exchange experiences, develop capacities, and achieve some of the priorities of the United Nations Youth Strategy (Youth 2030) which was issued for the advancement of Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security. This shall be achieved through raising the professional capacity of a group of male and female youth approaching the job market by engaging them in a training program that aims at building the skills and knowledge required by the current job market. The second stage shall involve a selected group of the male and female youth, who gained the training in the first stage, to join a specialized practical training program.

First Priority: Engagement, participation and advocacy- Amplifying the voices of youth to promote a world full of peace, justice and sustainability. Third Priority: Economic empowerment through suitable jobs- Helping more youth access suitable jobs and productive labor.

Fifth Priority: Building peace and resilience- Supporting youth to become assistant factors in peace building, security and humanitarian work.

It can be noticed that the target groups in society are in need of multiple stages of empowerment and enforcement to enable them to create a state of healthy social peace and to grasp sustainability factors, referred to as enforcement. This would help build a base of target group members who are empowered with the elements of social peace and who are capable of producing and implementing programs that are in line with main objectives

It is worth mentioning that the unemployment rate in Jordan has increased from 11% in 2010 to 19% in 2019. According to the reports of the Department of Statistics, the unemployment rate reached a level of (19.0%) during the first quarter of the year 2019 with an increase of 0.6 percentage points compared to the first quarter of the year 2018 when the rate was 18.7%. The unemployment rate among males during the first quarter of this year reached (16.4%) as opposed to (28.9%) for females. It can also be noticed that the unemployment rate among males has increased by 0.4 percentage points and that it has increased by 1.1 percentage points for females compared to the first quarter of the year 2018. The results also revealed that the unemployment rate was high among university degree holders (the number of unemployed individuals who hold a bachelor degree or higher divided by the workforce for the same university qualification). This rate reached a level of 24.4% compared to other academic levels.

The ramifications of unemployment are not limited to unemployed people, most of whom are youth standing in lines in search for jobs. These effects are not limited to low productivity either. The unprecedented soaring unemployment rates warn of negative impacts on social peace and stability with rising feelings of frustration and anxiety among those with no jobs. Such effects include an increase in social disorder, crime levels and other social ills.

- **Outcomes:**

- Securing educational and employment opportunities for marginalized groups

Indices

- * No. of job opportunities secured
- * No. of nontraditional jobs occupied by women
- * Society's view towards working in nontraditional jobs.
- * No. of labor legislations that have been amended/ developed.

- **Projects:**

Social and Economic Empowerment: Training and rehabilitation project for undereducated persons to integrate them into society- Mobile phone repair training project for young women in the southern, northern and middle governorates- Project of advocacy and gaining support for untraditional jobs.

- **Development and Governance, especially for Local Boards of Directors**

Development and Governance, especially for Local Boards of Directors According to international standards, developing countries should begin their development processes beginning from primary social circles, which are civil society organizations. This is so because these organizations are the closest to these countries' community issues and are most capable of implementing developmental programs and overcoming obstacles and challenges while doing so

This requires that such organizations' structures be built according to governance principles to ensure good levels of sustainable development.

- **Outcomes:**

- **Improved services provided to citizens.**

Indices

- Service time
- Service quality

- **Improved citizen satisfaction towards the performance of local agencies.**

Indices

- Level of satisfaction
- No. of complaints against violations

- **Projects**

Building the abilities of local councils in areas of participatory discourse, governance, gender integration, budget design and archiving etc.- Advocacy and gaining support project in the legislations field- Jordan barometer concerned with local councils in the primary stage (local council barometer)- Local government councils work charter project to promote continued institutional action- Community dialogue with local councils project (complete circle).

➤ **Human Rights**

During 2019, Jordan witnessed difficult and acute conditions unprecedented throughout its one-hundred-year history. Naturally, these conditions had an effect on its national spirit and spread to areas such as the human rights of citizens. As a result, the Jordanian society has been indulged in a state of anxiety and frustration amid an anticipation of something to happen. However, the sense is that what is to come will not meet the wishes and aspirations of the Jordanian citizen and may destroy all his hopes and ambitions. This general scene cannot go unnoticed as it is coupled with popular doubt towards any political or economic reform. The country's general political, economic and social conditions have reached an acute stage, therefore, widening the gap between the citizen and the state and paving the way for the emergence of negative trends among citizens. Also clear is a clear violation by the state of the citizen's political rights, citizenship rights and right to participation, as well as a total disregard to other economic and social rights while clearly resorting to a hardline security approach.

Moreover, the state has violated the citizen's rights through rising national debts, budget failure, high inflation and a failure to assume its duties without offering any much-needed effective socio-economic protection packages. This has led to the poverty rate reaching 56% and unemployment rates exceeding 20%. The citizens have viewed changes to the laws as "unconstitutional", attempts to fight corruption as ineffective and efforts to provide suitable living conditions, jobs, education and health services as failing. Economic conditions saw no improvements during 2019, therefore, adversely affecting citizens' abilities to provide adequate levels of food, shelter, water and sanitation.

Numbers show that 330 women in Jordan are threatened of imprisonment due to their inability to repay bank loans. These women have been subjected to economic violence by forcing them to take loans to support their families. The situation has exasperated to a level known as “femalizing poverty” in which there is a rise in the numbers of poor and marginalized women who are unable to support themselves and their families leading them to fall into legal problems and various forms of exploitation

The state has also violated Article 11 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights by imprisoning indebted persons as it is estimated that there are 300, Land of Peace financially distressed persons in Jordan with this number reaching 1.5 million when adding their family members. Thousands of these financially distressed citizens have left the country fleeing prosecution and leaving their families behind them to face financial and social challenges.

Those individuals face confiscation of their rights to renew their passports in a blatant violation to the right of free movement and a clear breach of the constitution. Such actions are also a violation of Articles 12 and 13 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as these people are prevented from travelling and denied healthcare, employment, opening bank accounts, purchasing houses and even marriage. This has led to a strong violation of children’s rights to childhood, individuality, identity, protection and dignified lives within the family structure and has driven them into child labor to help support their families. These violations fall upon the state and its consequent governments have the responsibility to maintain social security, achieve economic balance, fight corruption and lower taxes.

As a result of family fragmentation and severe poverty, the 2019 school year witnessed a rise in numbers of student dropouts from schools, especially at the elementary level. The number of children who had dropped out of school was 6182 boys and girls amidst a clear absence of the right to education through which the state should ensure a comprehensive educational system during all stages of life.

With the rise of violence in the Jordanian society, a study conducted by the Economic and Social Council on drug abuse in Jordan revealed that the “joker” and Captagon pills are spreading rapidly among youth, especially those aged between 12 and 25 years. These substances are sold at very low prices and have led to many cases of violence, the most recent of which was a man pulling his wife’s eyes out in a severe inhumane

act of brutality. The number of juveniles present in juvenile centers as a result of drug abuse, distribution and promotion has reached 304 and the number of crimes committed during the past year was 18400.

During 2019, Jordan saw the opening of the Bedoun (a person without a nationality) file. Such persons are not considered as nationals of any country according to those countries' legislations. The numbers of such persons have increased as a result of the same similar policies adopted in past years. Such stateless persons include the Bedouins in the north of the country and Palestinians whose Jordanian nationalities were withdrawn despite their right to those nationalities. Their numbers have not been disclosed by the concerned authorities in a clear breach to their human rights and a restriction of their freedoms. Moreover, these individuals' children inherit the same problems as their parents of living without nationalities and are deprived of their basic rights such as their right to education and healthcare. Such measures lead to the complete destruction of their livelihoods.

- **Outcomes:**

- 1- **Improved legal culture in the local community with regards to human rights**

Indices:

- No. of participants in related workshops
- Levels of legal culture in the local community

- 2- **Improved follow up and monitoring mechanisms of human rights**

Indices:

- No. of reported cases
- Levels of confidence in the respect of human rights within the community

- **Projects:**

Abuse monitoring legal culture project (social, economic, psychological, sexual abuse etc.)- Human rights media education project .

➤ **Institutionalization and Stability**

Sustainability is the condition for existence and institutionalization is the condition for sustainability.

Therefore, it is essential for any civil society organization to operate in accordance with an institutionalized and sustainable approach to be able to achieve and work productively.

Outcomes:

- **Improved learning and development of the work team**

Indices

- No. of team members who received specialized training
- Satisfaction levels among team members

- **Improved operations and internal work procedures.**

- No. of procedural manuals in force
- Size of financial revenue from sold services

Projects

Studies and research center- Refereed journal in peace culture- Exchange of experiences, especially in the area of building social peace- Program for capacity building in project management and communication (third dimension).

Plan's Governance:

The center's team has agreed that the plan's governance shall be as follows:

- Plan's Duration: 3 years (2020- 2023).
- The plan shall be updated in December of each year.
- The plan shall be authorized during the meeting of the Board of Directors.
- The plan shall be published upon authorization and shall also be published on the center's website.
- A meeting shall be held with the staff and volunteers to update them on the strategic plan.
- A follow up and evaluation meeting shall be held to examine the developments in the plan's achievements every (3 months) and an achievement report shall be prepared defining challenges and gaps.
- The plan shall be translated to English or other languages to allow communication with international donors.
- A follow up and evaluation system shall be prepared and attached to the strategic plan (the work team is currently developing this system based on measurement indices for each project to help focus on the results).
- An annual action plan shall be prepared based on the strategic plan.

Previous experience

- 1- **EU** : Program for Women Towards Effective Citizenship + Green Economic Association Non GOV for Women Towards Effective Citizenship – 2017
- 2- **UN Women** : Economic empowerment workshop for women Entitled Training of women on domestic electricity business in Sahab-2018
- 3- **The Australian Embassy**: (training women to maintain cellular devices and gain support for women's economic participation in non-traditional professions as part of the GBV program- 2019
- 4- **Local Financing** : Youth economic empowerment project (rehabilitation and training) within marginalized groups (first phase- Amman)- 2019
- 5- **Local Financing**: Economic empowerment projects for young men and women (rehabilitation and training) within marginalized groups (Phase Two- South (Ma'an- Tafila- Karak)- 2020
- 6- **Forum ZFD** : Community participatory research in Irbid Governorate on domestic violence, 2020
- 7- **Forum ZFD** : focus session with stakeholders on domestic violence between legislation and procedures -2020
- 8- **Forum ZFD** : Training school counselors in Irbid Governorate on methods of dealing with domestic violence within the 16-day campaign-2020
- 9- **Forum ZFD** :Community participatory research in Irbid Governorate on the representation of marginalized groups in the development plans of the elected councils (municipality- decentralization)- 2020
- 10- **Forum ZFD** : A policy paper within the campaign to gain support to integrate marginalized groups into the development plans of the elected councils-2021
- 11- **LOP Center** : Young People On Call An initiative during the crisis in dealing with the Covid-19 virus to educate the elderly, take care of them, and conduct the necessary sterilization. Funding- 2020
- 12- **LOP Center** : Teacher Corona messages An awareness campaign through social media-2020
- 13- **Local Financing** : Economic empowerment projects for young men and women (rehabilitation and training) within marginalized groups (Phase Three – Irbid)- 2020
- 14- **Forum ZFD** : Training school counselors in Irbid Governorate on methods of dealing with domestic violence (Phase-2) -2021

- 15- **Forum ZFD** : Shabab Plus Projects (Preparing young leaders specialized in community peace)-2021 .
- 16- **Forum ZFD** : Participation in the initiative (Towards a Better Environment) in Irbid Governorate in partnership with Irbid Municipality, UNHCR and the Public Security Directorate -2021
- 17- **Forum ZFD** : Celebrating the International Youth Day (by launching three initiatives from young volunteers at the center) and celebrating the International Day of Peace with a cultural theatrical performance inside schools in Irbid Governorate – 2021
- 18- **Partners Jordan- World Bank** : Society for Education (Policy Paper on Social Accountability of the Education System) - 2021
- 19- **Local Financing** : Youth economic empowerment project (rehabilitation and training) within marginalized groups (fourth Phase – Shoneh al-Shamaleah | Al-Agwar)- 2022
- 20- **Forum ZFD** : The Alternatives To Violence Project (It is a community program, offering a new approach for community groups, social service agencies, to learn new skills and attitudes that lead to fulfilling and crime-free live)-2022

Organizing external conferences

- Tunisia - **Combating gender-based violence - challenges and proposed solutions** - in cooperation with the Voice of Hawa Association \ Sfax – 2019.
- Turkey - **the challenges faced by the countries of asylum and the proposed solutions** in cooperation with the Human Building Association \ Istanbul – 2019
- Indonesia - **The role of educational and youth institutions in spreading the culture of world peace** (values and behavior) in cooperation with Muhammadiyah University / Jakarta – 2020
- Maldives - **The role of educational and youth institutions in spreading the culture of world peace** (values and behavior) in cooperation with the Islamic University \ Malé – 2021.
- Maldives - **The role of youth exchange | Civil society institutions ; Universities| In spreading societal peace among peoples** (the Fifth World Peace Conference) in cooperation with the Islamic University \ Malé – 2021

- Malaysia: **World Peace Conference and Alternatives to Violence** (The Sixth World Peace Conference)
in cooperation with the National University of Malaysia (UKM) | Kuala Lumpur -2022

Memoranda of cooperation and partnership:

- Memorandum of cooperation with the Civil Peace Service Forum – Germany\ 2018- 2022
- Memorandum of Cooperation of Muhammadiyah University – Indonesia \ 2020
- Memorandum of Cooperation of the Islamic University of the Maldives – Maldives \2021
- Memorandum of cooperation with the Greater Irbid Municipality – Jordan \ 2020
- Memorandum of Cooperation of West Irbid Municipality – Jordan \ 2021
- Memorandum of Cooperation with the German University – Jordan\ 2019-2022
- Memorandum of Cooperation with Education Malaysia Jordan (EMJ), is an initiative under the Education Malaysia Division, Ministry of Higher Education.
- Memorandum of Cooperation with the National University of Malaysia (UKM) | Kuala Lumpur -2022

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