

Improving Women's Access to Health and Legal Services

Background

On behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development ([BMZ](#)), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit ([GIZ](#)) GmbH has established an Open Regional Fund for the Middle East and North Africa region, which is managed by the Cooperation with Arab Donors Programme ([CAD](#)).

The regional project [Improving Women's Access to Health and Legal Services](#) was jointly financed by the Arab Gulf Fund for Development ([AGFUND](#)) and GIZ. AGFUND and the GIZ managed Programme "Co-operation with Arab Donors in MENA" supported the Centre of Arab Women for Training and Research ([CAWTAR](#)) in its implementation of the regional project through financial and technical assistance.

The project implemented in Tunisia and Yemen.

Improved Access of Women to Social and Legal Counseling Services, Tunisia

A population that is aware of its rights contributes to its country's development, enhances the rule of law, and alleviates distress in communities. Building on the drastic changes in Tunisia's civil society sector after the revolution in January 2011, CAWTAR has strengthened civil society through leading the project Improved Access of Women to Social and Legal Counseling Services, Tunisia. The project provided men and women in target areas with better access to legal information and raises their awareness of legal, civil, political, and economic rights. The project also provided capacity building workshops for staff members of ENDA: a microfinance institution based in Tunisia. ENDA's lending officers have been trained on civil, economic, legal, and political rights. 40 ENDA employees trained as trainers and subsequently delivered trainings on citizenship, political participation,

family laws, and gender based violence, leading to the dissemination of knowledge to approximately 160,000 former ENDA clients.

Strengthening the Capacities of Self-Employed Midwives in the Hajjah Governorate, Yemen

The project focused its activities on improving midwives' ability to raise awareness about gender based violence (GBV) and on promoting social acceptance of self-employed midwives in the Hajjah Governorate.

Community midwives constitute the fastest way to ensure that Yemeni women have access to professional attendance in pre-natal care, child-delivery, and family planning in the Hajjah governorate. These midwives are well distributed throughout the country, allowing them to play a central role in counselling on serious issues such as early marriage and violence against women. Together with the Yemeni Midwives Association and the GIZ Reproductive Health Programme, the project provided midwives with training to improve in various skill sets.

The project selected a number of qualified midwives to participate in courses on reproductive health related and GBV issues, such as identification of cases of violence against women and children. The midwives also learn business skills in order to establish themselves as self-employed individuals, while at the same time creating positive changes for the health of women in their community. After completing these courses, they were directed to microfinance institutions for loans to start their intended projects. The project resulted in an increased awareness of communities on reproductive health, GBV, related social issues and available services.



About AGFUND

The Arab Gulf Fund for Development (AGFUND) is a regional developmental funding organization based in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, under the patronage of HRH Prince Talal Bin Abdul Aziz, the President of AGFUND.

AGFUND works in the field of development at the international level through an effective partnership with GIZ, the UN, international, regional and national development organizations, public institutions, the private sector, and civil society organizations.

About CAWTAR

The Center of Arab Woman for Training and Research (CAWTAR) was created on March 7, 1993 in response to the request of a number of Arab governments and civil society organizations and institutions.

His Royal Highness, Prince Talal Ibn Abdulaziz is the center's president. CAWTAR was additionally created to provide the region with a center of research and studies relating to gender and the status of women, of advocacy for the improvement of women's status and of data collection, indicators and statistics.

Published by

Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

Cooperation with Arab Donors in MENA (CAD)

Mohamad Baseem Al-Khamash St.13, Sweifieh
P.O.Box 926238
Amman 11190
Jordan
T +96265868090
F + 96265868770
Elvira.ganter@giz.de
www.giz.de/jordan
www.cadp.me

Author(s)

Elvira Ganter – Jaafar Aslan

Layout

Jaafar Aslan

As at

March 2014

GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication.

In cooperation with



On behalf of

Federal Ministry for Economic
Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Addresses of
the BMZ offices

BMZ Bonn Dahlmannstraße 4 53113 Bonn, Germany T +49 (0)228 99 535-0 F +49 (0)228 99 535-3500	BMZ Berlin Stresemannstraße 94 10963 Berlin, Germany T +49 (0)30 18 535-0 F +49 (0)30 18 535-2501
--	---

poststelle@bmz.bund.de
www.bmz.de