



Placing a Premium on M&E: EvalJordan is USAID's new Champion



“Evaluation professionals across all sectors in Jordan are in need to adopt quality standards and norms when performing monitoring and evaluation. This is the main reason we created this platform.”

Mohammed Al-Qaryouti
Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
Director
USAID Jordan Cities Implementing
Transparent, Innovative and Effective
Solutions (CITIES)

For decades, the United States Agency for International Development in Jordan has been a leader within the international donor community in monitoring, evaluation, and learning as a keystone for every development project. As a result, and since May of 2014, the Kingdom of Jordan has seen the ever-expanding use of monitoring, evaluation, and learning (M&E) as a critical tool for results-oriented management by professionals from governmental, non-governmental, and international organizations. For it was in May 2014 that a small group of M&E professionals - that included two of USAID's own M&E professionals, Chemonics International's Mohammad Al-Qaryouti and Hayat Askar - committed to bringing M&E practitioners together to speak from the national level and act at the local level through the establishment of the Jordan Development Evaluation Association (EvalJordan).

Assessing strengths and weaknesses of programs, policies, personnel, and organizations, demands a solid monitoring and evaluation system being in place to track current and future outputs, outcomes, and ultimately - impacts. Understanding that the gathering and analysis of information can be as challenging as it is rewarding; the USAID-funded CITIES project recently hosted an EvalJordan meeting that focused on their core-vision of sustainable objectives with long-term impact through a culture of M&E that improves evaluation practices and methods; strengthens officials' fact-based decision and policy-making; expands the use of M&E tools; and increases access to regional and international M&E expertise.

In October 2017, EvalJordan will mark yet another key milestone as they host the Annual EvalMENA Conference in Amman. This is a long way from May 2014 when the original 15 founding members founded EvalJordan. A modest effort of committed professionals who now enjoy over 80 M&E passionate professionals working as one and who have become the largest assembly of monitoring and evaluation professionals in the MENA region.



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JORDAN

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Hayat Askar
Monitoring and Evaluation
Manager
USAID Human Resource for
Health 2030

Currently, Mr. Al-Qaryouti is serving as the Chairman of the Board for EvalJordan while Ms. Askar is the Board's Treasurer. Both individuals see their current positions of responsibilities and influence within EvalJordan as a natural outcome of their years of service within the USAID-Jordan's family of Jordanian M&E professionals.