



SUCCESS STORY

Transforming Stakeholders' Knowledge in School Design

Putting the new School Design Code into Practice Requires Understanding and Openness to Learning.



Government and Private Sector Personnel participating in the USAID-funded training program on the School Design Code

USAID's Enhancing Schools Management and Planning (ESMP) project aimed at developing an enforceable set of minimum school design standards for all schools in Jordan. This contributes to forcing basic design conformity; regardless of under whose authority the school is being designed. In 2021, ESMP in collaboration with government parties transformed the building design standards into a School Design Code, which was adopted by the Government of Jordan in early 2022.

To help put the new Code into practice, ESMP designed a training program that aims to train a minimum of 150 personnel from the public and private sectors on all aspects of the code. To ensure double benefit from the training, ESMP is working on accrediting the training material by the Government's Institute of Public Administration, to be considered by the Civil Service Bureau as part of the continuous professional development process for government staff.

In June 2022, ESMP in collaboration with the Royal Scientific Society developed the training material and kicked off the training program engaging groups of 25 - 30 personnel from the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, and architecture and engineering firms in Jordan, in a four-day training program. By June 30, 2022, ESMP trained no less than 50 personnel, of which 16 participants are from private sector companies. This does not only ensure increased understanding of the new School Design Code but also contributes to the Government of Jordan effort to secure compliance with the new requirements.

The participating personnel provided ESMP with positive feedback on the training, and passed on the recommendation to participate to their colleagues. The feedback intrigued interest in higher officials at the Ministries to participate, leading to the participation of Mrs. Soheer Burqan, the Director of Building Studies at the Ministry of Public Works and Housing.

"Based on the first group's feedback, I decided to enroll in the training program despite the workload, as the value and importance of this training is noticeable in improving the work." Mrs. Burqan echoed as she participated in the four days of the training.

USAID continues to support the Government of Jordan in adopting best practices in their operations through continuous technical support and capacity building efforts for the ministries to ultimately become self-reliant, and provide quality services to the people of Jordan.

Telling Our Story

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