

Project Summary
CHILD FRIENDLY CITIES

Partner Institution	Greater Amman Municipality
Project Title	Implementation of the Children Municipal Councils in Jordan and Support mechanism for youth friendly reporting on the child friendly cities
Project Location	Amman - Jordan
Project Duration	July 2017 - July 2018
Start and End Dates	2017 - 2018
Total amount	JDs 406,085

Background:

Greater Amman Municipality has been a leading city in the implementation of the child friendly cities concept and approach since 2005 when an Executive Agency for Child Friendly City was formed within the Municipality to promote children's rights in Amman city and create opportunities to enhance the realization of their rights especially among the most marginalized groups of children. Various activities were planned and supported by the Executive Agency including the provision of safe spaces for children to play, promoting awareness on children rights. An important component of Amman's child friendly city approach is the establishment of democratically elected youth councils, which contribute to the identification of priorities and the development of actions.

Greater Amman Municipality - Social Programmes Department in partnership with UNICEF Jordan, the Ministry of Education, UNRWA, Social Support Centre for Drop outs SSCD, and the Higher Council For Disability HCD, and Military Schools started promoting the culture of democracy among children in the city of Amman and enhance their participation in decisions affecting their lives at the local authority level, as a tool to translate the Child Right Convention CRC and the Child Friendly City since 2006. The project aims to give the children the opportunity to express their opinions and to shed the light on the issues that concern them, it also aims to engage them in the decision making process of the municipality.

The programme will target all adolescents across the five governorates between the ages of 11 and 15 years old, with particular outreach to ensure the inclusion of young people with disabilities, refugees and those from varied socioeconomic backgrounds including the DOM population.

In 2006, Child Municipal Councils were established in four locations in the capital city of Amman. The process of establishment included training of electoral focal points followed by training of candidates on CRC, advocacy, democracy and participation. Approximately 29,000 children participated in the process of electing a Child Municipal Council that would act as a link between the children of the city and its municipal council of adults to influence decisions at the local level to the best interest of the child, practice democracy in the schools and participate in extracurricular activities in the schools and public spaces. With the support of this project, the 77 elected members representing 77 schools have been also provided with additional trainings on advocacy, communication and planning skills that will enable them to take on their responsibilities as members of the CMC including the implementation of small scale projects to benefit their community.

In 2009 the second Municipal Committees in 9 Districts with participation of 51,295 Children yielded 158 Council members representing 158 Schools. In 2011 GAM have implemented the elections in 22 Districts in the city of Amman with the participation of 84,332 Children.

In 2014, GAM with the support of UNICEF have also planned for the elections for the general assembly in 22 districts in the city of Amman, with the participation of 460 schools (public, private, UNRWA and military schools) and almost 13,800 children nominated for elections (approx. 30 from each school). Over 130,000 Children participated in the Children's' General Assembly elections during that year.

Upon formulation of the Children Municipal Committees, elected members were given training sessions, seminars and workshops to address several issues such as planning, leadership, and project management and advocacy linked to the child friendly cities building blocks. Local committees elected one person to sit in the CMC.

In (2006 – 2008) + (2009 – 2011) + (2011 – 2013) + (2014 – 2017) 4 Child Municipal Councils were established in 22 districts in the capital city of Amman. The process of establishment included training of electoral focal points followed by training of candidates on CRC, advocacy, democracy, participation, communication and planning skills that will enable them to take on their responsibilities as members of the CMC including the implementation of small scale projects to benefit their community. On 2011 – 2013 + 2014 – 2017 the significance of these 2 Councils is that they have been implemented through fair elections between children in the city of Amman encompassing Students at Schools, School Drop outs, Children with Disabilities, and the Girl Child to ensure gender equity.

The established Children Municipal Council has developed its mandate and mechanisms of dialogue with the policy makers at the municipality and is now actively involved in various policy and planning procedures at the Municipality to ensure that the voice of the child is heard and that the best interest of the child is placed at the forefront of the municipality. It will help promote the notion of Democratic elections within the children including providing them with an opportunity to voice opinions with municipal council and to take part in community decisions. Furthermore, it provides a good planning process of programmes and projects that meets their needs as well as create a sense of ownership toward the city. The significance of this Council is that it has been implemented through fair elections between children in the city of Amman encompassing Students at Schools, School Drop outs, Children with Disabilities, and the Girl Child.

Throughout implementation, this project was characterized with a strong sense of partnership among the different organizations involved – Greater Amman Municipality, UNICEF, Ministry of Education and many others who have demonstrated a great deal of commitment to creating an enabling environment for adolescents' participation. The project has mobilized municipality staff, schools, and other key players in the community to provide opportunities for children and adolescents to voice their views and their opinions, and to enable them to play a role in ensuring that Amman is a child friendly city from a child's perspective.

In 2016 UNICEF and GAM decided to replicate the CMC experience to Municipalities Madaba and Zarqa where it built the capacity of the Municipality staff members to become youth trainers and advocates for Child rights as well as implementing the children municipal council elections within the Municipalities' schools with the participation of 100,000 children in the 2 Municipality moreover enhancing the skills of the candidates from schools.

UNICEF also has contributed to the program by providing the support in building the capacity for both the children themselves and the care givers as well; below are the main themes that was targeted

aiming at building the capacity of the children;

- Child friendly cities.
- Child Rights
- Better citizenship
- Participation concept
- Leadership.

Building on this, UNICEF through plans to reactivate this from a technology lens, through developing an interactive Online Portal that will include a website which will offer a meaningful platform to engage with a wide range of youth (Jordanian, Syrian and Palestinian), partners, and decision makers. An interactive Mobile Application will be created and linked to the UCAN Interactive Online Portal. The application will engage young smartphone users to the wider network of youth and enable cross platform engagement among young people. The App inputs will feed into an Interactive Digital Map that will facilitate analysis of locations against key existing data (socio-economic identified by the CFC indicators) and allow “click through” to further details and a variety of feedback tools. The interactive digital map will allow filtration by type of issues, location, demographics among others.

Also having the successful module of the CMCs with GAM, UNICEF plans to expand and replicate this experience in another two governorates in the coming years, with the aim to go beyond in future, by utilizing GAM technical expertise, the know-how and the material and processes relevant to this to support the other municipalities to establish the CMCs.

During the past 14 years Greater Amman Municipality – has implemented “In Jordan we Grow Camp– Bilurdon Bnikbar camp” which is considered one of the pioneer initiatives implemented to help promoting social cohesion and active citizenship. The Philosophy behind implementing the camp is to spread awareness among children on the customs and traditions of citizens of Amman & Jordan as well as giving the participating children the opportunity to meet new people.

The camps provide opportunities for young people to learn new skills through an interactive learning process on the concepts of:

- Leadership skills & Creative thinking
- Better Citizenship, Volunteerism, and community service.
- Self-awareness
- Competitiveness
- Group dynamics and communication skills
- Time Management and Problem Solving
- Healthy life Style.

Project Objectives

- Support scaling up Jeel962 through promoting the participation of adolescent members in CMC and CFC
- Improve the 21st century skills of adolescents and youth.
- Improve the capacity of GAM to enhance, refine and implement sustainable skills development programmes for adolescents and youth.
- Promote the participation of adolescents in the processes of decision-making, planning, implementing and evaluating programmes in the community with focus on their engagement in their communities
- Create a safe and conducive environment to enable adolescents to put their leisure time to good use, benefit from opportunities for development, growth and participation and become agents of change in their communities
- Build adolescents' self-confidence, raise their awareness of basic life skills, and implement youth-led initiatives and labour market preparedness projects

- Raise the awareness of parents of the importance of youth participation and bridge the generation gap between adolescents and adults
- Build the capacity of youth workers in the youth centers in relation to planning, implementing and evaluating participatory programmes targeting adolescents
- Replicate the CMC project to 2 new Municipalities Mafraq and Karak.
- Implement the CMC project for the 5th time in Amman and support the other two existing councils in Zarqa and Madaba.
- Implement the international camp for adolescents aging from 9 to 12 years old.

Activities and Outputs:

1) Establishing the Child Municipal Council in Mafraq, 2) establishing the Child Municipal Council in Karak, 3) manage and coordinate the work of the higher and the technical committees for the Child Friendly cities (CFC) that will include members from all stakeholders and ministries involved and develop the terms of reference for these committees, 4) Coordinating the work of the committee with others concerned, 5) establishing a mechanism for adolescent and youth friendly reporting on the child friendly cities, 6) support the existing Child Municipal Councils in Amman, Zarqa and Madaba.

Activities:

1. Establish the Child Municipal Council in Karak
2. Establish the Child Municipal Council in Mafraq
3. Manage the higher committee for the CFC that will include members from all stakeholders and ministries involved. Coordinate the work of the committee with others concerned
4. Establish a mechanism for adolescent and youth friendly reporting on the child friendly cities
5. Support Jeel962 activities through the CMCs, and the national committees
6. Conduct the international camp for adolescents in Jordan

Amman:

- 520 Schools (60%) are female schools involved in the electoral process of the formation of CMC.
- 144 adolescents (50% girls) are equipped with 21st Century skills
- 25 youth workers are equipped as trainers on the basic life skills manual + CFC
- 22 adolescent led community campaigns are planned and implemented by adolescents both from CMC (50% girls) in their own communities;
- parents that are equipped with information and skills on adolescents' development and participation which contributes to reducing the intergenerational gap between adolescents and their parents

Mafraq:

- 90 schools involved in the electoral process of the formation of CMC.
- 90 adolescents that are equipped with 21st Century skills
- 22 youth workers are equipped as trainers on the basic life skills manual + CFC
- 5 adolescent led community campaigns are planned and implemented by adolescents both from CMC (50% girls) in their own communities;
- parents that are equipped with information and skills on adolescents' development and participation which contributes to reducing the intergenerational gap between adolescents and their parents

Karak:

- 60 schools involved in the electoral process of the formation of CMC.
- 60 adolescents that are equipped with 21st Century skills
- 22 youth workers are equipped as trainers on the basic life skills manual + CFC

- 5 adolescent led community campaigns are planned and implemented by adolescents both from CMC (50% girls) in their own communities;
- parents that are equipped with information and skills on adolescents' development and participation which contributes to reducing the intergenerational gap between adolescents and their parents

Zarqa:

- 5 adolescent led community campaigns are planned and implemented by adolescents both from CMC (50% girls) in their own communities;

Madaba:

- 5 adolescent led community campaigns are planned and implemented by adolescents both from CMC (50% girls) in their own communities;

Bilurdon Bnikber Camp – In Jordan we grow camp :

- 2 international camps targeting 200 children.

Monitoring and Evaluation Plan:

- Pre-test and post-test questionnaires will be used by the training team with the participants to measure benefit.
- A work plan will be developed at the end of the workshop by the workshop participants identifying the tasks that they will organize to promote awareness on the concepts of CFC and the CRC in addition to the youth led initiatives among parents, children and community members.
- Monthly meetings will be conducted with the participants of the trainings to follow-up and monitor implementation of awareness activities with children, parents and community members.
- GAM will ensure there is an equal representation across all policy themes in terms youth participation.
- GAM will prepare guidance note on measures that need to be taken into consideration by partners implementing the various policy themes to ensure that participation in mainstreamed throughout the CFC.
- Each of the 22 districts in GAM will provide infrastructure support such as supplying venues, computer and stationary supplies... etc for purpose of CMCs meetings and activities.
- Appointing a coordinator in each directorate whose role will be to aid the CMCs in the planning and implementation of the projects as well as attend all of the CMCs meetings.
- GAM will coordinate with Ministry of Education and School principals to appoint focal points to facilitate the election process throughout the schools.
- A Manual will be developed by Social Programs Staff and the core training team on CFC and CMC.
- Monitoring through field visits, progress report, tracking inputs to monitor progress.

Visibility Clause:

GAM will coordinate with UNICEF on ensuring visibility of UNICEF in its planned activities and will ensure that UNICEF logo is well represented in all the activities carried out under the project. Staff and volunteers working under this project should use the co-branded material to ensure proper visibility at all GAM centers. In addition, UNICEF branding must be included on all supplies and equipment used and/or purchased for the relevant UNICEF supported activity and programming. This also relates to ensuring visible UNICEF branding at programming premises, as well as on staff uniforms. Where relevant, donors to UNICEF may also require visibility. UNICEF staff should be directly involved in branding discussions prior to any production of programming materials. UNICEF programme and communications staff must always be notified prior to any media or high-level visit to the programme site. This should be the case even if and when that intervention is only partially funded by UNICEF.

Sustainability:

- Social Services Department staff at greater Amman Municipality will be following up regularly on the work of the municipality and map the achievements as well as giving the needed technical support needed in the different municipalities Amman, Zarqa, Madaba, Mafraq , and Karak.
- The Children and adolescents from the different municipalities that are engaged in the skills enhancement programs will be implementing initiatives and campaigns targeting the community according to the gaps in themes aroused from the participatory rapid appraisal PRA that were done in their community.
- The Municipalities Staff as well will be ahead of the project and will follow up on the Children Municipal Council in order to make sure that they are connected with the Municipality different decision makers to sustain the links that will help make the voices of children fully heard.

Output/activities	Indicators (all disaggregated by nationality, camps and host, gender and age groups); WGBM = Women, Girls, Boys and Men	Baseline (2016)	Target (2017-2018)	MoV / Frequency
Output 1: Municipalities adopting child Municipal Councils	1.1 Number Municipalities adopting the Child Municipal Councils CMC	3 Municipalities	5 Municipalities	Partner report
	2.1 Number of Schools participated in Child Municipal Councils elections	# Eligible Schools , 110	631	Partner report
	3.1 Number of Children participating in the election process	# of Children Participating 115,846 #of children's elected 110	#of children participating 150,000 #631 elected	Partner report
	4.1 Number of Committees established	#General Assembly – 3 general assemblies #Local Committees 36 local committees	#General Assembly 5 # of local committees 48	Partner report
	5.1 Number of PRAs developed	# PRA reports 34	# PRA reports 46	Partner report
	6.1 Number of capacity building programs for CMC members	# of training programs 6 trainings #of children participating 530 # of drop outs Amman 10 # of Disability Amman 13	#of training programs 10 training programs # of children participating 631	Partner report
	7.1 Number of Staff participated in the capacity Building program	#of Municipal staff 64 # of School staff 220	Number of Municipal staff 60 # of School staff 631	Partner report
	8.1 Number of Parents participating in the CMC	# Parents Participating : 1060	# of Parents Participating 2000	Partner report
	9.1 Number of Children Campaigns	# of Campaigns 30 # of Children 235 # of indirect beneficiaries 825126	# of Campaigns 46 # of Children 770 # of indirect beneficiaries 880821	Partner report
	10.1 Number of Children participating in the CMC assembly		# of Children 700	Partner report
11.1 Number of Municipalities Participating in the CMC assembly	# of Municipalities 0	# of Municipalities 5	Partner report	
Output 2: CFC international Camp	1.2 Number of Municipalities participating / National and International	10	15	Partner report
	2.2 Number of Children Participating National and International	200	200	Partner report
	3.2 Number of Camps took place	11	12	Partner report