



SOVEREIGN MILITARY HOSPITALLER ORDER
OF ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM OF RHODES AND OF MALTA

Embassy of the Sovereign Order of Malta to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Country Concept Paper 2020/2021

THE SOVEREIGN ORDER OF MALTA

1. MISSION: Upholding human dignity and caring for people in need

The Sovereign Order of Malta is one of the oldest institutions of Western and Christian civilization. A lay religious order of the Catholic Church since 1113 and a subject of international law, the Sovereign Order of Malta has diplomatic relations with 110 states and the European Union, and permanent observer status at the United Nations, with permanent missions in New York, Geneva, Vienna and Rome.

The Sovereign Order of Malta does not pursue any economic or political goal and does not depend on any other state or government. It is neutral, impartial and apolitical.



The Order of Malta operates through 11 Pories, 48 national Associations, 133 diplomatic missions, 1 worldwide relief agency – Malteser International - and 33 national volunteer corps, as well as numerous hospitals, medical centers and specialist foundations. Today, the programs of the Order of Malta are active in more than 120 countries. Across the world, these are dedicated to the preservation of human dignity and the care of all those in need, regardless of their country of origin or religion. The Order of Malta is especially involved in helping people living in the midst of armed conflicts and natural disasters by providing medical assistance, caring for refugees, and distributing medicines and basic equipment for survival.

The Sovereign Order of Malta' diplomatic bilateral relations are an essential asset in contributing to the effectiveness of its humanitarian diplomacy. Since 2006, it has been part of the UN Human Rights Council. It played an active role in the 2016 UN World Humanitarian Summit and in the consultations leading to the adoption last year of the Global Compact on Refugees and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. This effort enabled the Order of Malta to ensure that the important contributions provided by faith-based organizations and religious institutions in humanitarian action are fully acknowledged.



The Sovereign Order of Malta is committed towards the promotion and support of interfaith and intercultural dialogue. In 2020, on the occasion of World Interfaith Harmony Week, it contributed to organize the 5th Annual Geneva Interfaith Dialogue entitled “Loving one’s neighbor”, along with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), the Permanent Mission of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Geneva and other international organizations. In this context, Representatives of different religions and faiths shared their thoughts on faith- driven values and the responsibility of governments and the international community at large to harness the vast mobilizing potential of faith. The dialogue offered the opportunity to see the linkages among faith, governmental institutions and civil society.

Migration: Grand Chancellor of the Order of Malta at the Marrakech Summit to Adopt the Global Compact

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN - OUTLOOK



Jordan has made considerable economic, social and human development achievements over the past decades, investing significantly in infrastructure, human resources, and improvement of living standards. During the past decade, the country has faced a number of substantial challenges, most notably the 2008 global financial crisis and rise in oil prices, which generated economic instability throughout the region and a spillover effects on investment, trade and tourism.

On top of the difficult economic situation, the tremendous impact of the Syria crisis, including the displacement of refugees and resulting population growth, had a huge impact on the Jordanian development process. The annual direct cost of hosting Syrians in the Kingdom amounts to approximately USD 2.348 billion, while the annual indirect cost is about USD 3.1 billion.¹ Jordan has been coping with the repercussions of the Syria crisis with support from the international community, with recognition of the global public goods that the country has been

The Order of Malta in
support of Syrian refugees

¹ Jordan Response Plan for the Syria crisis 2016-2018

providing. The endorsement of the so-called Jordan Compact, an agreement in which the international community committed to increasing financial support for the Jordanian economic development, conditional on Jordan releasing work-permits to Syrian refugees and supporting other initiatives to boost refugees' social inclusion and economic self-reliance, is part of the effort to share the responsibilities towards refugees and support Jordanian vulnerable communities.

In this context, the government of Jordan has opted to address the national challenges of rising living costs, poverty and unemployment through "Jordan 2025", a blueprint that was launched in the first half of 2015 in the presence of His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein. This national vision and strategy document were developed following the conclusion of the National Agenda for the years 2006-2015. It is a 10-year socio-economic blueprint for the country that takes into consideration the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, with the objective of achieving a prosperous, resilient and inclusive economy while strengthening reforms.

In addition, Jordan was one of the first countries globally, and in the Arab world, to take action towards the attainment of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which committed world leaders to combat poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation, and discrimination against women. Overall, considerable achievements were made during the first ten years, especially in the areas of poverty eradication, maternal and child health, communicable diseases, universal primary education, and environmental sustainability. In particular, universal primary education has been achieved and the improvement of maternal health and communicable diseases control is possible.² However, significant challenges still prevent definitive progress particularly in light of the repercussions of the global economic crises and its impact on economic growth rates, public debt, government revenues and unemployment rates. When MDG timeframe came to an end, Jordan engaged in the global consultations that fed into several international processes and reports, thus shaping the Post-2015 sustainable development agenda. The four main areas that emerged as critical for Jordanians include strengthening the link between education and the labor market, reducing gender inequality and poverty, respecting human rights, and enhancing awareness on environmental issues. Considering these priorities, Jordan set out to realize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on the lessons learnt in achieving the MDGs.

Given the above-mentioned diplomatic strategy and contributions to the drafting of the objectives of the MDG, the Order of Malta stands ready to support progress towards the implementation and achievements of these objectives in Jordan.

A Roadmap for Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) implementation has been developed by the Jordanian government, mainstreaming the SDGs into national/sub-national planning, budgetary and monitoring frameworks and institutional mechanisms put in place to secure the coordination of SDG realization. Jordan readily adopted the 2030 Agenda and the accompanying SDGs, renewing its

² United Nation – Department of Social and Economic Affairs <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/jordan>

commitment to the Universal Declaration for Human Rights, and the outcomes and declarations of all conferences and summits convened by the UN.



In terms of healthcare, Jordan has witnessed substantial achievements in all aspects related to ensuring the right to health and a fulfilling life. In this regard, the government conducted a health sector vulnerability assessment in 2015, thus identifying the need for 2,886 additional hospital beds, 22 comprehensive health centers, and approximately 1,000 doctors and 2,000 nurses to cope with the increasing pressure on the health system due to the Syria crisis.³ The administration is also vigilantly ensuring that previous gains in polio and measles eradication are not compromised, especially in light of polio outbreaks witnessed in Syria and Iraq over the past years. Moreover, Jordan implemented the National Strategy for Reproductive Health/Family Planning (2013-2018), through a close partnership between the Ministry of Health and other partners. In addition to further improving health services – especially in governorates – Jordan will be concentrating on strengthening civil registration and hospital records to enable proper capturing and investigating of maternal and child deaths, while also striving to address their causes. In fact, the government will be focusing attention in the coming years on the peri-natal period and on women's health and reproductive health and has set a target to reduce infant mortality – with a special focus on neo-natal mortality – and under-five mortality rates by two thirds to reach 6 and 7 per 1,000 live births respectively by 2030⁴. Considering its focus on healthcare and medical assistance, and thanks to its expertise on the matter, the Order of Malta stands ready to contribute towards the achievement of these objectives.

³ Jordan Response Plan for the Syria crisis 2016-2018

⁴ <https://www.who.int/countries/jor/en/>

SOVEREIGN ORDER OF MALTA IN JORDAN



Ambassador of the Sovereign
Order of Malta to Jordan Lorenzo
Borghese presents his credentials
to His Majesty King Abdullah II

The Sovereign Order of Malta has maintained full diplomatic relations with Jordan since 2003. The experience of the Order around the world in evidence-based decision making, context analysis and adaptability, local and international advocacy, and staff and institutional partner capacity building facilitated its commitment to improving the safety, health, and economic well-being of people affected.

As of the beginning of 2018, CISOM Foundation (Italian Relief Corps Order of Malta) and later followed by the Sovereign Order of Malta's Embassy in Jordan have launched three cooperation programmes, three of which (Mobile Medical Unit for Diabetes early detection, Elderly Day Care Centre and Mother & Child medical support) have been partially financed and are on the way.

In 2019 the Grand Priory of Rome concluded a Programme with the Italian Hospital in Karak (ANSMI) run by the Combonian Sisters in supporting the Hospital with a full renovation of the Maternal and Neonatology ward.

King Abdullah accepted the credentials of His Excellency Ambassador Prince Lorenzo Borghese on the 2nd of December 2019.

Since then, the Embassy of the Sovereign Order of Malta worked towards strengthening the presence and diplomatic relations of its Embassy in Amman, fully committed to contributing to the overall wellbeing of the local communities in Jordan and to fostering inter-faiths dialogue in the region.

A GLANCE INTO THE FUTURE



80° Grand Master Fra' Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto

Cooperation and constructive dialogue based on the principles of respect of human dignity are the fundamental pillars to build a strategy for the future.

The strategic vision that the Embassy is prepared to follow, takes its reminder from the great teaching in the last speech given by the Grand Master Fra' Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto who underlines that:

“The role of humanitarian agencies who work to alleviate suffering and for the common good of humanity is increasingly essential in a historic moment in which the principles and values – values such as solidarity, equality, respect of human and civil rights – on which democracy is based are being challenged.” and “My hope is that humanitarian diplomacy will progressively become an indispensable instrument for promoting dialogue and peace and for resolving decades of conflict shedding blood on so many parts of the world.”.

With this regard, the Embassy of the Sovereign Order of Malta to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is currently seeking to establish partnerships with both international and local Jordanian organizations to build a sustainable and cooperative network.

The aim to achieve is to identify stakeholders who share our common vision about alleviating human suffering throughout targeted projects, with a strong and measurable impact on the population of concern.

The values that pave the way towards our future work in Jordan has been indicated to us by His Majesty King Abdullah II before the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France – 15 January 2020:

“Patience is hard in a world that never seems to slow down, where people make split-second decisions and expect instantaneous results. Leadership, however, demands the very opposite reflection, wisdom, and the long view.

[...] Because we all have a responsibility to safeguard our people’s long-term interests and welfare. [...] My father, the late king Hussein, taught me that peace making is always the harder but the higher path. “



His Majesty King Abdullah II

THE PROJECTS

“OUTREACH PROGRAMME ON DIABETES”

>> SITUATION

The overall improvement in economic conditions over the last 40 years has led to side effects on the most common chronic diseases. The availability of electricity, water, television, transport has caused a decrease in physical activity. The progressive increase in fats and carbohydrates in the diet deteriorated the problem. Obesity (BMI > 30) has reached a prevalence of over 50% of the general population. Moreover, the increase in the average lifespan has paradoxically highlighted the probability of chronic diseases. The increased incidence of Diabetes Mellitus type 2 (DM2) represents the main consequence of the picture described above. DM2 induces one of the highest number of comorbidities in systemic diseases. It is estimated that in Jordan approximately 40% of the population with DM2 are yet not diagnosed. The direct annual costs of the treatment of DM2 are around 650 million JD. The indirect costs are not predictable but presumably quite heavy. Finally, it must be noted that patients with diabetes Type 1 and 2 and/or affected by hypertension face many difficulties regarding supply of drugs and primary necessary health care (insulin, test strips, adequate nutrition, and proper physical activity, management of comorbidities, etc.). The 2001 Finnish Study established that DM2 can be prevented in 58% of cases.

>> GOALS

The main goal of the project is to **prevent** DM2 and detect the disease (42% of Jordanians) in the younger population with no or little symptoms in order to be able to offer high-level medical assistance with simple and effective pharmaceutical supplies and avoid these patients within the years to have serious DM2 complications. The objective to activate a programme through a Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) is to increase the percentage for treatment and monitoring of the population with diabetes and hypertension and allow access to secondary health care.

>> MEASURES

- Improving the level of diagnosis and therapy of Diabetes Mellitus type 2 (DM2) in the rural areas of Jordan in full agreement with Ministry of Health.

- Data collection to monitor the progress of the project and to support both the analysis and the resulting resolution strategies of local institutions to increase diabetes prevention.
- Promoting communication and training concerning DM2 to civil society in the selected villages (number and geographical areas will be defined with MoH), to be reported as number of training.



FINANCIAL ASSET

Total amount year one: 200.000,00 euro.

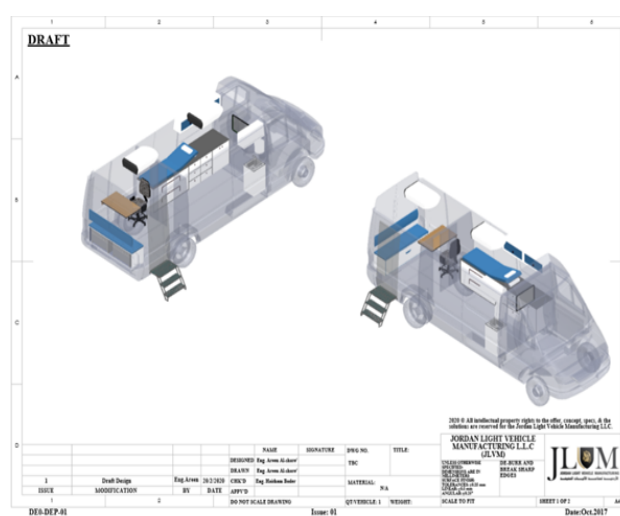
Total amount year two: 110.000,00 euro from private donor.

The Embassy of the Sovereign Order of Malta in Jordan received a contribution by Global Fund for Forgotten People for the purchase of the MMU.

Mobile clinics are an important proposal in health and medical systems and provide advantages such as accessibility, variety of services, and the possibility of providing health care for remote or underprivileged locations with a focus on DM2 prevention.

The Embassy of the Sovereign Order of Malta in Jordan is willing to accept partnership and/or co-financing to set up of the Mobile Medical Unit. We aim at reaching 3000 beneficiaries per year, in addition to ensuring continuous contributions to provide a population screening in partnership with the Jordanian health authorities.

Full details of these Programme (Concept note & Budget sheet) are available upon request.



COVID19 OUTBREAK

The covid-19 crisis represents a demanding challenge for the Jordanian Government. Increasing testing capacity in rural areas is key to an efficient management of the pandemic. The Order of Malta is committed to contributing to the Jordanians' effort in this direction. It will ensure



that that the Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) used in the Outreach Programme on Diabetes is at free disposal of the Jordanians health authorities for a predetermined number of days each week.

The MMU will be equipped with serological tests, swabs, personal protection equipment (PPE), medical staff and clarifying brochures for proper social behavior be distributed to the population in rural areas around Amman.

“DAY CARE CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY”

SITUATION

There are approx. half-a-million people aged 60 and older in Jordan, representing 5.4 per cent of the population. The Department of Statistics (DoS) alleged in a statement e-mailed to The Jordan Times that a total of 513,000 people aged 60 and older live in the Kingdom. Amman hosts the largest number of elderly residents, with 6.2 %, followed by Ajloun in the north and Karak in the South (5.3 %). Social, economic and cultural conditions impose a multitude of tasks and duties on the younger members of the family, making it very difficult for them to take care of their older parents. Youth leave the villages in search of better opportunities, leaving behind elderly relatives who live most often a lonely life without financial or social support. In addition, there is a shortage of vital medical care for this category of people. Since the war began in 2011, Jordan has provided refuge to more than 1.3 million Syrian refugees. They are increasingly vulnerable and have little financial resources since their savings, assets and resources dried up. Over 80% live below the poverty line. Older people are mostly overlooked in humanitarian responses, their needs are not met, and aid delivery is not suited to their abilities. DoS assume that 62.6 per cent of elderly people suffers visual impairment, 45.6 % have hearing difficulties and 71.7 % complain of mobility impairment.

GOALS

Senior clubs play a key role in the network of elderly care. Primarily, their job is to maintain the social relationships of senior citizens and to replace those lost with other relationships. Senior citizens typically struggle with a sense of insecurity because of changes in their personality as they get old and their micro environment collapses, resulting in the lack of relationships and the loss of everyday conversations. As the individual reaches old age, the family as the primary community of socialization often disappears with a dramatic decrease in the frequency of interaction with family members.

Our primary task is to slow down the processes that result in negative consequences and reverse them by bringing back old relationships, if possible, and building new ones. The most powerful means to achieve this include mental care, community (group) work and personal contact.

The goal and task of day-care is to replace family care with social and mental assistance, and to improve the social situation of the elderly, to eliminate their solitude, to prevent any negative effects of inactivity, and to improve their health and hygiene condition.

Moreover, it will be providing basic medical assistance to the elderly hosted at the center.



Upholding human dignity by reaching out to the excluded, such as the elderly

MEASURES

The daycare Centre will provide the following services: counselling, skills development, household assistance or household replacement, case management, supervision, care, community development, pedagogical assistance, remedial pedagogical assistance.

1. Counselling: Giving advice on life management and lifestyle, providing information on legal status in the facility (termination, data management, changes, events), presentations by a professional on accident prevention and victim protection.
2. Case management: This helping relationship aims to satisfy the needs of clients, including contact with relatives, supporting, informing and providing them with further guidance, individual and group counselling on the uses of medical devices, information on incontinence, intervention in critical situations, assistance in administration, giving information of general interest, providing the necessary forms, explaining where they are available, helping to fill them, and writing official letters as requested.
3. Care: Aimed to keep personal hygiene and satisfy physical needs, this activity supports locomotion and relocation, provides assistance with personal hygiene, and offers glucose, body weight and blood pressure tests on a weekly basis or as required, ensures rest, offers life management assistance, prevents and eliminates isolation, offers psychological support and mental care by helping clients accept and manage the process of aging, avoid loneliness and social exclusion, and vice versa: confirm mutual acceptance and support clients' contact with their families.
4. Supervision: This activity serves users' psychological and physical security with personal or technical means at their permanent or temporary residence or the location of service, including the continuous presence of the caregiver and nurse in office hours, seeing club members in and out, walking with them, monitoring their physical and mental condition, communication, monitoring changes of mood, lack of appetite, toilet use, physical hygiene, moisturizing, medications free of charge, etc.
5. Household assistance or household replacement: Satisfying users' physical needs including washing, drying and hanging clothes, warming, serving and food supplies on daily basis, providing all opportunities and means to satisfy personal needs, distributing donations of clothes and durable food.
6. Skills development: Managing leisurely activities, helping to improve existing skills and keeping their level, sessions aimed at manual and sensor skills to preserve senior citizens' mental and physical activity: craftwork sessions with a range of techniques (sewing, knitting, crochet, glass painting, folding, cutting, gluing), card games, domino, tabletop games, dexterity, language and quiz games, gross motor activities: one weekly session of remedial exercise in groups with a professional and an opportunity for one weekly session of individual refreshment massage with a professional.
7. Community development: celebrating national and family festivities, cherishing traditions, historical commemorations, anniversaries, cultural events, public holidays (including Christmas, Easter, carnival, name days and birthdays, International Day of Older Persons, watching congratulatory performances by invited disabled daycare users).

Mental development activities (talent shows), preparing and performing common cooking, both indoors and outdoors, making food and pastries together.

Film screenings, slideshows, visiting local libraries, reading weekly papers.

Listening to music, morning music sessions, singing together (performing folk songs, operettas, operas, chansons and music by various nations), literary programs, meet the authors, visits to cinemas, theatres and museums). Dance and music show with invited performers.

Language games, remembering and interpreting folk traditions, proverbs and myths

➤ FINANCIAL ASSET

- Total amount year one: 120.000,00 euro.
- The Embassy of the Sovereign Order of Malta in Jordan has already received a total of 75.000 Euro from private donors.

The Embassy of the Sovereign Order of Malta is willing to accept partnership and /or co-financing to set up the Outpatient simple clinic within the Centre with all the necessary medical supplies: ultrasound, electrocardiogram, pharmacy and medical equipment, along with contributions for Audiovisual Centre, meals for the poor, recreation activities and yearly salaries for 3 young social workers.



Full details of these Programmes (Concept note & Budget sheet) are available upon request.

“MOTHER & CHILD” Socio-Sanitary Assistance to Mothers with at risk pregnancies in rural areas of Jordan (Gore Valley)

➤ SITUATION

The pregnancy period is an extremely delicate moment of women's life. Every woman should be able to exercise her right to a safe and reliable medical care during the pregnancy time. Nonetheless, women in Jordan are often exposed to a multitude of sanitary risks, along with psychological pressures and other challenges related to their social and marital status.

To address this problem, in Karak, the mission of the “Combonian Missionary Sisters” is fully committed to assist women during their pregnancy. The Sisters tirelessly work at the Italian Hospital in Karak, and together with 85 between doctors' nurses and employees to carry out health assistance projects and ensure that vulnerable women from marginalized socio-economic backgrounds are able to enjoy the care and assistance they need. The mission takes good care of each patient in need, regardless of religious or ethnic backgrounds. Population of concern includes Bedouins, Gorani, refugees and migrant workers. The Syrian refugee crisis and the difficult economic situation that the Jordanian society is currently experiencing increased the number of patients requiring assistance from the Hospital, and further support is therefore critical.

➤ GOAL

This project aims to increase the percentage of women at risk (social, financial, family difficulties) who will receive full access to healthcare free of charge and clinical monitoring them during pregnancy. Its main objective is to create a full organizational with clinical and training path that can minimize the incidence of acute events and disabling complications for both mother and child.

➤ MEASURES

- Monitoring the number of patients that receive access to specialists' screenings during all the pregnancy period.
- Broadening the access for women to get help from doctors and/or midwives when giving birth (natural or caesarean section)
- Providing newly moms with screening and medical check post-partum

- Providing new-borns with neonatal intensive and semi-intensive care for premature or at-risk births

FINANCIAL ASSET

Total amount year one: 103.000,00 euro.

The Embassy of the Sovereign Order of Malta in Jordan received a contribution by The Grand Priory of Rome for the complete renovation of the Neonatology Ward.

The Embassy of the Sovereign Order of Malta is willing to accept co-financing to assist 200 mothers x year at pregnancy risk, including pre-partum assessment (Ultrasound; Psychosocial support; medical care with all necessary lab test and supplements), partum (normal or cesarean) and post-partum care. Full details of these Programmes (Concept note & Budget sheet) are available upon request.



Financial Management and Transparency – Order of Malta

Funding is received from members of the Order, as well as private and public donations. It varies according to different countries, types of projects and circumstances. Resources for hospitals and medical activities usually originate from agreements stipulated with the national health and social systems. The same goes for emergency services.

In developing countries or in situations of conflict and high-risk emergencies, activities are often backed by grants from governments, the European Commission, UN specialized agencies or other international organizations.

The Embassy of the Sovereign Order of Malta in Jordan, as well as Malteser International and all the other Agencies of the Order, uses donations and all funds entrusted to it economically, efficiently, and in a goal-oriented manner. Financial statements are always audited independently.

Over the years, they have shown that administration and management costs remain within an objectively appropriate limit. In line with Sovereign Order of Malta's commitment to transparency, every year, we give account of our finances, our donors and how and where donations had been invested.

All Projects and financial details are published in our annual reports as well as on our website.

Donors, Partners & Friends



GRAND PRIORY OF ROME



ORDINE EQUESTRE
DEL SANTO SEPOLCRO DI GERUSALEMME



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