

Disability and Age Sub-Working Group (DASWG)

Monthly Minutes of Meeting (MoMs)

Date: 14 February 2024

Attendees: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees(**UNHCR**), International Orthodox Christian charities(**IOCC**), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (**UNRWA**), Center for Victims of Torture(**CVT**), The Jordanian Hashemite Fund For Human Development (**JOHUD**), **CARITAS**, **ARCS Arci Culture Solidali** , **Al Mustaqbal Club for Physical Disability**, **Medair**, Médecins Sans Frontière (**MSF**), Danish Refugee Council (**DRC**), Terre Des Hommes (**TDH**), Intersos, **Generations for Peace**, **COOPI**, **Movement for peace**, Institute for Family Health (**IFH**), The Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (**HCD**), Ministry of labor (**MoL**), **Al-Elqaa House center**, Souriyat Across Borders (**SAB**), **Be positive organization**.

Time: from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Location: Al Mustaqbal Club for Physical Disability/Jabal Al-Hussein.

➤ **Agenda:**

Agenda Item	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none">DASWG Co-chairs and HCD updates	10 min
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Promoting Rights of PWD in the workplace and ILO achievement in recruiting PWDs.<ul style="list-style-type: none">Brief session on Al Mustaqbal Club for Physical Disability	30 min
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mosaic program/ Souriyat Across Borders	20 min
<ul style="list-style-type: none">DASWG members/ partners updates and AOB	15 min

➤ Within the DASWG plan to enhance coordination, collaboration, and sharing of information among the members, while involving Organizations for People with Disabilities (OPDs). The meeting was held at Al-Mustaqbal Club.

➤ **About Al-Mustaqbal Club for physical disabilities:**

Al Mustaqbal Club for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) was established in 1988 under the patronage of the late King Hussein, may God rest his soul. Their goal is to enable PWDs to exercise various kinds of sports that are relevant to their disability and provide them with rehabilitation, social and cultural services. Number of members: 350 members, both males and females. (Jordanian and other Nationality)

➤ **Services provided through Al Mostaqbal Club:**

- Sports services, including wheelchair basketball, weightlifting, powerlifting, boccia, and table tennis.
- Social services, including life skills workshops and handcraft activities to enhance individual skills for creating job opportunities or small projects.
- Cultural support through seminars and lectures covering various social, cultural, and literary aspects, as well as an annual Quran competition (for 8 consecutive years).
- Providing humanitarian assistance including food parcels, clothes, and financial aid distribution (based on availability).

Disability and Age Sub-Working Group: Highlights Wednesday 14 February 2024

- Welcoming note by the Co-Chairs from UNHCR and IOCC.
- **Presentation by Mr Mohammed Sarhan on behalf of ILO:**
 - Introduction about ILO initiative “Global Business and Disability Network (GBDN)” This initiative brings together multinational companies, employers' organizations, and disability networks to promote the inclusion of PWDs in the workforce. The GBDN provides guidance, resources, and best practices to companies on recruiting, retaining, and advancing employees with disabilities.
 - The ILO provides technical assistance and capacity-building support to partners, employers' organizations, and workers' organizations to implement disability-inclusive policies and practices. This includes training programs, workshops, and advisory services tailored to the needs of different stakeholders.
 - **Employment-Intensive Investment Project (KIIP- KFW) “phase VI”:** the project provides short-term employment opportunities to refugees and host communities.
Project components:
 1. Capacity Building Of stakeholders: The project supports building the capacity of 220 stakeholders including the public and private sector on Employment-Intensive Investment Project (EIIP) and Women Inclusion. The project will provide policy-level support and guidelines.

2. Agroforestry: 175 hectares of area of afforestation supported (land preparation, plantation, protection, etc.). 87,000 trees planted (on-site / saplings in nursery).
3. Community Infrastructure: 15 municipalities supported through EIIP Projects in locations that will support local communities.
4. Skills and Enterprise Development: Skills Development for around 1,300 EIIP workers including Youth, Women, and PWDs.

➤ **Presentation by Souriyat Across Borders (SAB):**

- SAB is a women-led charity organization founded in 2012 by five Syrian women as an emergency response to the Syrian crisis to meet the fundamental needs of Syrian refugees. In 2013, SAB opened a center in Amman, Jordan that offers programmers for rehabilitation, education, and empowerment.
- The mosaic project at SAB began in 2018 by training a group of ambitious PWDs, providing them with a comprehensive six-month program of 250 training hours. The training covered various aspects of mosaic art, including its different styles, and involved instructing participants in creating numerous captivating mosaic paintings.

The project aims:

1. Achieving economic empowerment and financial independence for PWDs.
2. Preserving and reviving traditional identity and cultural heritage.
3. Building capacities, and challenging stereotype perceptions about PWDs.
4. Highlighting the positive psychological impact that art leaves.

- Through mosaic project SAB achieved the following:
 - More than 30 trainers now have stable profession and independent income.
 - Empowering women in art and achieving financial independence, with several female trainers joining the team.
 - Developing the abilities of children through specialized training workshops.
 - Establishing several exhibitions showcasing mosaic art created by the women.
- SAB provides services other than mosaic, including academic sessions for children with learning difficulties and academic delays, providing academic assistance to students during the Tawjihi stage, and providing safe spaces for children and students for studying.
- You can contact SAB through Obada: obada@souriyat.org

➤ **DASWG members/ partners updates and AOB:**

- **Ministry of Labor (MoL):** Ms. Sumaya Al Zubi from the Employment of PWDs department represented the department roles and responsibilities at MoL, expressed openness to collaborating with organizations dedicated to assisting PWDs. She also announced an upcoming Job fair for PWDs, scheduled for the 15th

of February, encouraging members to participate and learn about the resources and services available at the job fair.

- **Movement For Peace:** They announced a new director named Paula who introduced herself and expressed eagerness to cooperate with other organizations.
- Next Meeting will be March 17th during Ramadan.