

Who is doing What for Youth in Jordan



United Nations Population Fund / Jordan Office
صندوق الأمم المتحدة للسكان / مكتب الأردن



Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

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List of Organizations That Took Part in the Mapping Exercise

Organization Name	اسم المنظمة
Zikra Initiative	مبادرة ذكرى
Under my Olive Tree	جمعية تحت شجرة الزيتون
Basmat Volunteers	متطوعو بسمات
KitabiKitabak Initiative	مبادرة كتابي كتابك
Book loop Initiative	مبادرة بوك لوب
Masar Initiative	مبادرة مسار
No Honor in Crime Initiative	مبادرة لا شرف في الجريمة
Be Positive Initiative	مبادرة كن إيجابياً
Merciful Father Initiative	مبادرة الأب الرحيم
Bread for Education Initiative	مبادرة الخبز من أجل التعليم
Jordan Education Initiative / The Internship Program	مبادرة التعليم الأردنية / برنامج فرصتي للتميز
SketShow Initiative	سكيتشو SketShow
Queen Rania Center for Entrepreneurship (GRCE)	مركز الملكة رانيا للريادة
Youth Spirit Center	مركز روح الشباب
Al-Balad Theatre	مسرح البلد
Youth Network for Development and Innovation (YNDI)	شبكة الشباب للتطوير و الابداع
Jordan Pay Equity	اللجنة الأردنية للإنصاف في الأجور
We are for Each Other Initiative (E7na La Ba3ad)	مبادرة إحنا لبعض
Ta3leeh Initiative	مبادرة تعليلة
Mazalaty Initiative	مبادرة مظلتي
Hemmah Volunteering Group	مجموعة هممة التطوعية
Shams Al Kheir Initiative	مبادرة شمس الخير
Alemny Initiative	مبادرة علمني
Wheat Grain Project	حبة قمح
BelHiwar Nartaqi	بالحوار نسمو ونرتقي
Yarmouk Society for the Care of the Disabled	جمعية اليرموك لرعاية المعوقين / لواء بني كنانة
Al Wadi Women's Charitable Society	جمعية سيدات الوادي للتنمية الاجتماعية
Mujaddidun Society Development Charity	جمعية مجددون الخيرية التنموية – الأردن تعمل ضمن فكرة صناع الحياة.
Jordanian Society for Human Development	الجمعية الأردنية للتنمية البشرية

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Children's Museum
Royal Health Awareness Society (RHAS)
Al-Aman Fund For The Future of Orphans
Hayat Educational Fund
Raneen Foundation
Partners Jordan
Shabab Share
Saweyya Initiative
Friends of Archaeology and Heritage
Jordanian Society for Protecting Human and Earth
Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN)
Working Women Society
Jasmine Society for Children with Down's Syndrome
Al-Safawi Ladies Society for Social Development
Mastaba Women's Charitable Society
Ghor el Safi Women Association for Social Development
Social Kitchen: Taghmees
For You My Country Initiative
Youth for Youth Association
Steps
SADAQA - Towards a friendly working environment for women
New Think
Al Numeira Environmental Association
Enhancing Leadership and Success Skills
Ruwwad Al Najah Group for Voluntary Work
Abella Initiative
United Religions Initiative
Zaha Cultural Center
Maan Women's Charitable Society
'Am Nithala Initiative
Young Muslim Women Association Center for Special Education
The Society for the Rehabilitation and Development of Rural Women

جمعية متحف الطفل الأردني- متحف الأطفال
الجمعية الملكية للتوعية الصحية
صندوق الامان لمستقبل الايتام
جمعية صندوق حياة للتعليم الخيرية
جمعية مؤسسة رنين
مركز الشركاء الأردن
شباب شير
مبادرة سوية
جمعية اصدقاء الآثار والتراث
الجمعية الاردنية لحماية الارض والانسان
الجمعية الملكية لحماية الطبيعة
جمعية السيدات العاملات
جمعية الياسمين لأطفال الداون
جمعية سيدات الصفاوي الخيرية
جمعية سيدات مسطبة الخيرية
جمعية سيدات غور الصافي للتنمية الاجتماعية
تغميس: مطبخ اجتماعي
مبادرة لأجلك يا بلدي
جمعية شباب من اجل الشباب
خطوات
صداقة "نحو بيئة عمل صديقة للمرأة"
الفكر الجديد
جمعية النميرة البيئية
تعزيز مهارات النجاح والقيادة
مجموعة رواد النجاح للعمل التطوعي
مبادرة اببلا
المبادرة المتحدة للأديان
مؤسسة زها للطفولة /مركز زها الثقافي
جمعية سيدات معان الخيرية
مبادرة عم نتحلى
مركز جمعية الشابات المسلمات للتربية الخاصة
جمعية تنمية وتأهيل المرأة الريفية في سطور

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Al Mashreq Al Jadid for Studies	المشرق الجديد للدراسات والأبحاث
Al Musawa Center for Local Community Development	مركز المساواة لتنمية المجتمع المحلي
Mafraq Cultural Forum	منتدى المفرق الثقافي
Jordanian Association for Orphans & Widows Care	الجمعية الاردنية لرعاية الارامل و الايتام
Arab Women's Society	جمعية المرأة العربية
Tashbeek for Sustainable Development and Media	مركز تشبيك للتنمية المُستدامة والتدريب الإعلامي
Our Step	جمعية خطواتنا لدعم الأشخاص ذوي الاعاقات النفسية واسرهم
Northern Aghwar Anti-Smoking Society	جمعية الاغوار الشمالية الخيرية لمكافحة التدخين
Jerash Literary Forum	ملتقى جرش الادبي
Northern Badiyya Forum for Culture and Development	ملتقى البادية الشمالية للثقافة والتنمية
The Jordanian Charitable Society for caring for Heart disease patients and their families	الجمعية الاردنية لرعاية مرضى القلب
Building and Development of Madinat Kufranja Initiative	بناء وتطوير مدينة كفرنجة
Hikaya Center for Civil Society Development	مركز حكاية لتنمية المجتمع المدني
Jordan Palliative Care Society (JOPCS) / Bayt Alafyh Wellness House	الجمعية الأردنية للرعاية التلطيفية و علاج الألم/ مبادرة بيت العافيه
Arab Group for the Protection of Nature	العربية لحماية الطبيعة
Arab Thought and Culture Society	جمعية العربية للفكر الثقافي
The Jordan Anti Drugs Society	الجمعية الأردنية لمكافحة المخدرات
Dead Sea Society for Health Development	جمعية البحر الميت للتنمية الصحية
AIESEC	جمعية تنمية مهارات الشباب القيادية
Care International	منظمة كير العالمية
Orthodox Initiative	مبادرة الارثودوكس
Abdul HameedShoman Foundation	مؤسسة عبد الحميد شومان
Madrasati Initiative	مبادرة مدرستي
Queen Zain AL-Sharaf Charity Organization	جمعية الملكة زين الشرف الخيرية
Debate Foundation	المناظرة لنشر على ثقافة الوعي
Near East Foundation	مؤسسة الشرق الادنى
The Arab Foundation for Sustainable Development (Ruwwad)	المؤسسة العربية للتنمية المستدامة
Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan (JREDS)	الجمعية الملكية لحماية البيئة البحرية
طمي لتنمية الموارد البشرية	طمي لتنمية الموارد البشرية
Jordan River Foundation (JRF)	مؤسسة نهر الاردن
Salt Youth Coalition (Abeesh)	ائتلاف شباب السلط (ابيش)
Salt Cinema and Theater	جمعية رواق الأردن للثقافة و الفنون (سينما و مسرح السلط)

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Al Amal Society for the Care of the Disabled
Alsindyan Institute
Luthan Youth Achievement Center (LOYAC)
Arab Women's Media Center (AWMC)
Al Jude for Scientific Care
West and East Center For Human Development (WE Center)
SOS Children's Village Association of Jordan
All Jordan Youth Commission (AJYC)
Save the Children
King Hussein Foundation (KHF)
Princess Basma Youth Resource Center (PBYRC)
Hassan Youth Award (HYA)
Leaders of Tomorrow (LoT)

جمعية الأمل لرعاية الأشخاص ذوي الإعاقات
جمعية السنديان
مؤسسة لويك الأردن (مركز لوزان للإنجازات الشبابية)
مركز الإعلاميات العربيات
مؤسسة الجود للرعاية العلمية
مركز الشرق والغرب لتنمية الموارد البشرية
SOS Village جمعية قرى الاطفال الاردنية
هيئة كلنا الأردن للشباب
منظمة انقاذ الطفل
مؤسسة الملك حسين
مركز الاميرة بسمة للشباب
جائزة الحسن للشباب
قادة الغد

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Executive Summary

Youth between the ages of 10 to 24 make up 32% of Jordan's population and are characterized as the most educated faction of society. The contributions they are making in volunteerism, active civic participation and even in the leadership roles they may take on to develop their community is underestimated and misunderstood due to Jordan's traditional hierarchy. Youths do not reach their full potential due to lack of resources, lack of access to knowledge and information and the barriers created by the society and institutions. However, support for the potential of youth can be illustrated through the Royal Family, in which King Abdullah II referred to youth as the 'knights of change' and Queen Rania Abdullah, who stated that "The only way to predict our future is to have the power to shape our future. We have the power to do that. The power is our youth."

Youth organizations in Jordan that were included in this mapping exercise consist of non-profit companies, civil society organizations (CSOs), Royal non-governmental organizations (RNGOs), international non-governmental organizations, and informal youth groups that serve youth needs or reflect their views.

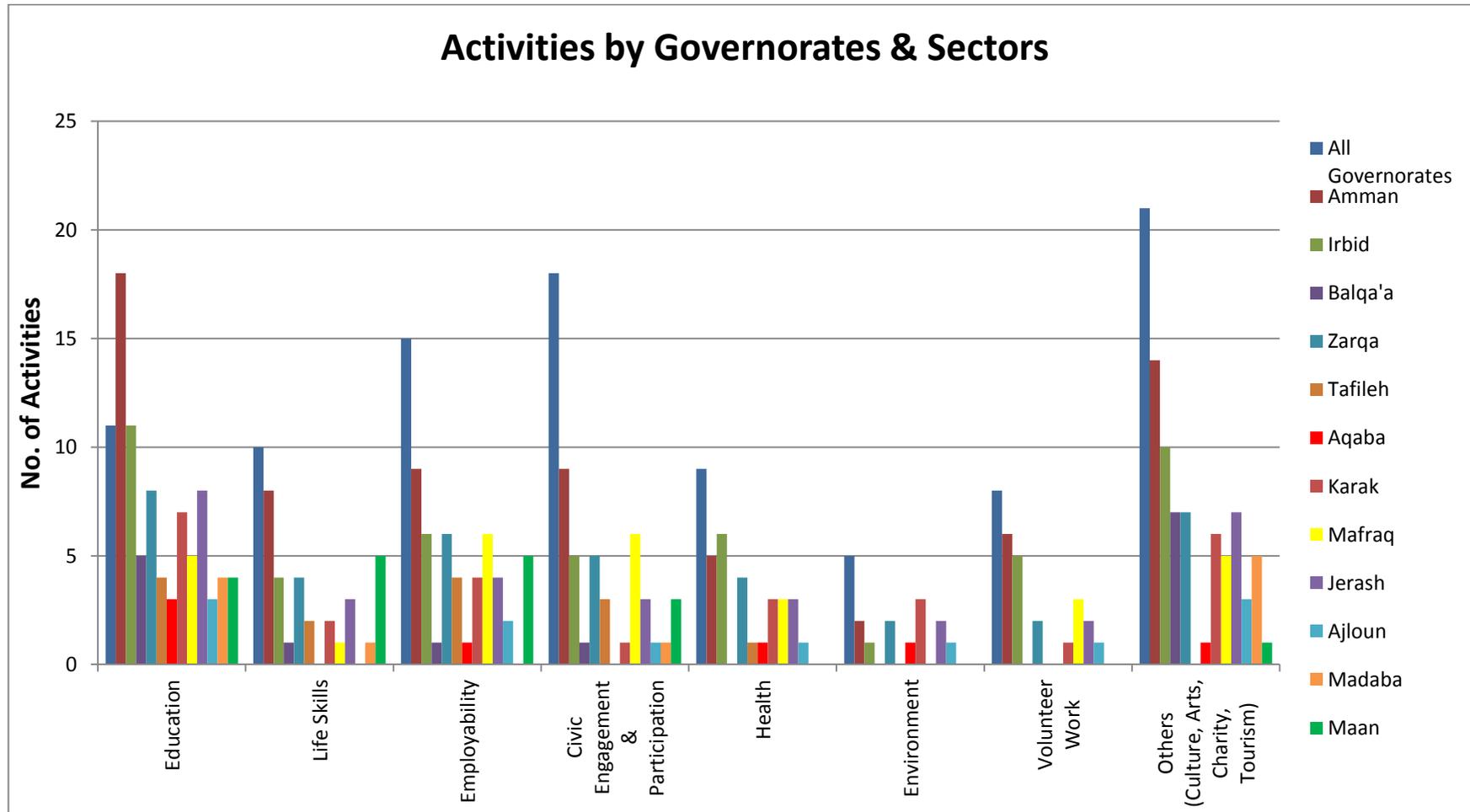
The history of civil societies in Jordan dates back to the 60s, and the rapid development of civil societies in the 90s to what is today registered as 4,555 civil societies alone. There is no data to indicate how many of these civil societies are active, but an attempt was made to randomly map the activities of larger non-profit companies, Royal non-governmental organizations, civil societies and informal youth groups as a starting point or indicator of what types of activities were available to youth aged 10 to 24 in the various sectors and all the governorates of Jordan.

Figure 0 illustrates that the largest number of activities offered to youth was in the education sector, both formal and non-formal education, including life skills development and employability skills development. This assists in achieving the Jordanian government's number one service priority, which is education. With the assistance of the various educational activities provided by various organizations, CSOs, RNGOs and informal youth groups, Jordan has already succeeded in achieving MDG 2, which is to provide universal primary education and overcome its challenges by creating a generation with the opportunity for education for all. The mapping classified the types of education activities available to youth according to the education for all (EFA) goals they were assisting in achieving and included providing higher education opportunities for all to decrease wealth disparities; improving the quality of education; providing reading resources to improve literacy; addressing drop out children; developing life skills; and developing employability

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skills. The most frequent type of education activities was the development of life skills which were mostly in the form of awareness raising activities of the theoretical format.

Figure 0: Number of Activities According to Sector and Governorate



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The least frequent types of educational activities included activities that improved the quality of education and activities that addressed drop out children, a percentage which has increased over the past years.

The sector referred to as Others included charity work activities, arts and culture and tourism activities, and accounted for the second most frequent types of activities as observed in the figure above. Charity work was among the most popular of activities known to youth in their local communities and was mostly in the form of collecting and distributing all forms of assistance to the less fortunate. Arts and culture activities accounted for a wide array of events, workshops, conferences, and festivals in poetry, music, photography, film and theater, media – including journalism and social media, handicrafts and research. Volunteer work activities reported by the various organizations were mostly in the form of awareness raising and promoting the volunteerism spirit. However, this is a very broad area since implementation of activities by organizations, especially CSOs and informal youth groups, depended on volunteers, and are not always translated into activities provided for youth by the CSOs and informal youth groups themselves.

Environmental activities were the least frequent types of activities offered to youth. Environmental activities were classified according to the challenges that they assist in overcoming to create a 'green economy' into activities that aimed at waste removal, recycling, water conservation, forest life conservation and raising awareness on environmental issues, which accounted for the largest number of activities. Water conservation and recycling activities were very limited in number, despite water scarcity being a well-known environmental challenge and priority of the Jordanian government. The majority of activities in the sector, including some of the water conservation, forest life conservation and waste removal activities were in the form of raising awareness and lacked the practical component, which did not follow up on youth's application of the concepts they learned.

Although health care service is the second service priority of Jordan, the number of activities for this sector is comparatively less than the education, civic engagement and participation and the arts and culture and charity work sector. Health activities include raising awareness of youth to reproductive health and gender based violence issues, which is a response to a youth need that will help improve livelihood and well-being, and promoting healthy lifestyles, which responds to popular but very unhealthy habits of youth to use tobacco at an early age, mostly in the form of awareness raising activities. Other less frequent health activities include support for the disabled or physically and mentally challenged.

The largest number of activities occurred in the main Jordanian cities including Amman, Irbid and Zarqa, as they harbor the largest populations. More organizations are choosing to execute their activities in all governorates and are not specific to certain governorates as is illustrated in the above figure where activities that are executed in all governorates are the most frequent in all sectors, except for the education sector. This is especially the case for the

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organizations of the civic engagement and participation sector where activities are offered to youth from all governorates. Civic engagement activities included empowering youth to serve their community, to become activists, to start their own initiatives, to engage youth voice in social and political issues and to raise their awareness to human rights.

Youth participation does not only refer to the participation of youth in the 'manual phase of projects' but also to the involvement of youth in the designing and implementation of activities. Jordan is making more effort to involve youth as key participants in the decision-making process and this challenge in a way the traditional hierarchy that links age with decision-making. According to Hart's Ladder of Participation, the majority of organizations included in this Mapping Exercise fell in level 6, 4 and 3 of Hart's Ladder of Participation. Organizations that fell in level 6 of the ladder worked on empowering youth to possess equal roles with adults whereas, organizations that fell in level 4 of the ladder aimed at enhancing the involvement of youth in the decision-making process. Level 4 and level 6 of Hart's ladder are referred to as the degrees of youth participation. However, organizations that fell in level 3 of the ladder, which is classified as non-participation of youth by Hart, did not provide an opportunity for youth to participate in decision-making and hence, did not adequately contribute to the development of youth skills.

Most organizations did not possess an accurate and documented ratio of female to male participation, but were capable of providing an estimated value. These values indicate that 75% of activities possessed 50% or more female participants. Only 25% of activities possessed more than 50% male participants and were due to a variety of reasons including the nature of the activity such as strenuous physical work or acting in a drama sketch, cultural taboos of a conservative society that may not allow a female to travel abroad for a cultural exchange program and challenging society's views on the role of females, which does not encourage females to participate in certain activities.

When organizations design and implement their activities, they face a variety of challenges, of which funding was by far the most reported challenge. Organizations reported that they faced challenges from the local community, technical and administrative challenges, which accounted for the most reported number of challenges and included lack of technical expertise to execute activities, difficulty in receiving official approval when implementing an activity and the lack of commitment of employees and volunteers at the top of the list. Technical challenges that were identified included lack of transportation, especially for participants from one governorate to another, the lack of employees or volunteers to arrange for logistics correctly, and the lack of an office premise for the organization, CSO or informal youth group to work in. Challenges that rose from the local community were due to the lack of awareness of the local community to the importance and objectives of an activity and included the lack of acceptance of the local community to a certain activity and to

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the outreach of youth. Youth identify outreach as the biggest gap and challenge in which organizations do not always use the most appropriate method to reach out to a wider and more variable audience of youth. Social media, which was the most frequently used method, is not always the most appropriate method as youth who live in the smaller governorates and the less privileged communities do not possess continuous access to internet and may not possess the information literacy skills to research and access the opportunities provided for them.

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Background of the Research

Youth aged 10 – 24 years old compromise 32% of the total population in Jordan according to the 2013 datasheet of the Population Reference Bureau's The World Youth Study. According to the Department of Statistics, this percentage is 21.6% for youth aged 15 – 24 in 2013. The youth sector is shaped by the design and implementation of the youth policy and the role and projects of youth non-profit organizations (NPO), civil societies (CSO) and informal youth groups which support Jordan's activities as a state. King Abdullah II emphasized the role of young people and his confidence in their "creating the future" and being the "knights of change".* This coincided with the evolution of many non-profit and civil society organizations in Jordan that support youth roles in initiating informal youth groups and/or catering to youth needs. The organizations that play a significant role in youth affairs and in shaping the youth policy include the local non-profit and civil society organizations, the international non-governmental organizations (INGOs), the five Royal non-governmental organizations (RNGOs), the governmental organizations (GO) and ministries and other international authorities such as the United Nations (UN) in Jordan. The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) represents an important milestone of the UN development assistance in Jordan. The iterative character of its preparation process generated a mindset and a high level of enthusiasm which will be a strong catalyst towards the "One UN - One Program" concept. The United Nations in Jordan developed the UNDAF for the years 2013-2017 with the government of Jordan. It came out as a result of a continuous consultative process intended to analyze how the United Nations can most effectively respond to Jordan's national priorities and needs. It is guided by the goals and targets of the Millennium Declaration as well as by Jordan's national social-economic plans, such as the National Agenda 2007-2017 and the Executive Development Program 2011-2013.

The UNDAF Youth Working Group is mandated to oversee the implementation of UNDAF Priority Area 3 which is Investing in Young People and its operational plan, by being a regular information sharing forum on youth issues, encouraging the formulation of joint programs and mobilizing resources for them and providing technical assistance to UN partners.

The UNDAF Youth Working Group faces challenges related to coordination and identification of all major actors working in the area of youth in the country. During the last three years, and in particular since the Arab Spring started, many organizations designed and implemented projects and programs targeting youth; offering them opportunities to build their capacities. Several new NGOs were established as a response for the rapid changes the country is going through. Unfortunately, most of the NGOs are working on individual bases, not seeking partnerships or building on previous experience. This is causing

* His Majesty King Abdullah II's Address to the Nation on the Occasion of Independence Day, Amman, 24.05.2007

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challenges related to incoherence and duplications. The resources allocated by the different donors for youth appear to be spent on small, random interventions instead of pulling all the resources together to implement joint programs between the different bodies.

Out of this, the UNDAF Youth Working Group identified an urgent need to have information about those Youth NGOs and entities and their interventions to know what is being done, for whom, where, and by whom. This is vital for many reasons. First, to recognize the levels of interventions and the gaps that are yet to be filled. Second, to understand the needs and expectations of the youth organizations and programs in order to allow for better coordination in meeting those expectations.

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Objectives of the Research:

The general objective of the Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan is to create a youth index in which activities offered to youth in all governorates could be circulated among all organizations in Jordan through the:

- i. Development of a data base on youth related interventions including names and contact details of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations (CSOs), and informal groups (Youth Initiatives) running activities for youth in Jordan, the type of activities, geographical areas of interventions, age groups targeted, the level of youth participation, funding sources, and challenges faced by organizations in the planning and implementation of activities for youth. This will be vital for future collaboration among these different parties and will assist establishing more integrated and comprehensive programs that include a large number of entities.
 - ii. Analysis of the activities provided for youth in the various sectors to gather a general overview of the activities available in the various governorates of Jordan, level of youth participation in the designing and implementation of projects and the organizational challenges faced when implementing projects including funding, outreach and administrative and technical challenges. The analysis was made based on the UN, international and governmental policies in each sector.
- ❖ *It is important at the beginning of this research to emphasize the importance of defining youth. Youth here refers to the age group including those between 10 and 24 years old. Many of the dimensions of this research may be unique, because anyone above the age of 24 is considered an adult.*

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Methodology:

Data was collected from 105 local and international non-profit organizations, Royal NGOs, civil society organizations and informal youth groups. Data was also collected from several organizations working in Zaatari Camp.

Because this research does not refer to organizations as non-governmental organizations (NGOs), it is essential to clarify the terminology used according to the registration of organizations in Jordan. Organizations working to serve communities in the various sectors that were a part of this mapping exercise are either registered as:

- ❖ *Non-Profit Organization - Non-profit companies are registered as companies in the Ministry of Industry and Trade and possess objectives that provide social, humanitarian, health, educational, environmental, cultural or similar activities of a non-profit nature.*
- ❖ *Civil Societies (CSOs) - A civil society is comprised from a group of no less than 7 persons registered under the provisions of the Law on Societies (Article 3/16 of the Constitution), on a volunteer basis without seeking or sharing any profit and without achieving any political goals. Civil Societies are registered in the Ministry of Social Development as normal societies, private societies, or closed societies. These different civil society' types differ in the number of its members, its funding sources and special laws pertaining to registration and membership of the civil society. The largest number of organizations included in this mapping exercise was civil societies.*
- ❖ *Royal Non-Governmental Organizations (RNGOs) – these are organizations registered under royal decree and a special law and are separate institutions from the government and have a separate budget. These organizations are of the largest in the country and include the King Hussein Foundation (KHF), the Jordan River Foundation (JRF), the King Abdullah II Fund for Development (KAFFD), and the Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD)*
- ❖ *International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs) – These were either international NGOs that function on a worldwide basis or organizations that are Jordanian branches of the international organizations or regional organizations. Examples of these organizations that were a part of this mapping exercise include Save the Children, AIESEC, CARE International, the Near East Foundation, SOS Village in cooperation with the Jordanian government, and the Orthodox Initiative. Most of organizations functioning in Zaatari camp were international organizations.*
- ❖ *Informal Youth Groups - Informal youth groups are unregistered initiatives that consist of one or more individuals that are usually youth or serve youth. These initiatives were usually, but not always established as a result of a capacity building program that empowered youth to start their own initiatives. It is essential to emphasize this was not the case for all informal youth groups, especially those with charity objectives.*

Seventy of the 105 organizations that were a part of this mapping exercise were CSOs and the remainder was informal youth groups with a few RNGOs and INGOs. The Jerash Literary Forum was the only organization that is registered as a cultural forum. The Hassan Youth Award (HYA) is unique in that it is

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registered as a Program working under the umbrella of the Prince Hassan Council but the institution is a part of an international organization, however, it is not registered as so. Mujaddidun Society Development Charity is registered as a civil society but is actually an extension of the regional Life Makers Initiative inspired by Dr. Amr Khaled. It was agreed by institutions that they registered as what would be most easily permissible by law and what would give them the most freedom and flexibility to execute the activities that would achieve their objectives. Informal youth groups reported they did not register because of the registration procedures, which they did not fully understand, because they wanted the flexibility of serving their community without the formality of being registered, and because some were in a 'pilot' phase and wanted to gain some experience before registering their initiatives.

Identifying Organizations and Their Contacts- Organizations and Informal youth initiatives were identified by:

1. The research team's contacts – The research team and volunteers who worked on this project from different governorates made recommendations as to contacts who they knew were active.
2. Social media research – The research team used social media accounts such as Facebook, Twitter and the Ministry of Social Development website, as well as conducted google search to identify organizations.
3. Referrals from organizations that were contacted – A part of the questionnaire was designated for organizations to identify their active partners and supporters. The research team also inquired about organizations' network during phone calls and field visits.

Collecting Data – Data was collected through the use of two questionnaires. All organizations were contacted before the questionnaires were sent to explain the objective of the Mapping Exercise, the nature of the questionnaire being sent and the main output of the research to clarify the study and answer any questions that organizations may have.

One questionnaire was used for informal youth groups and small civil society organizations and one questionnaire was used for large, branched organizations such as the Royal NGOs and main Youth Centers. Questionnaires gathered information on the following:

- Organizations' history, main objectives, contact details
- Organizations' activities: Organizations were asked to give a clear and precise account of the current activities they were implementing during January to August 2014 time frame to be included in the Mapping Exercise. To clarify the terminology that may be viewed different from one organization to another, all organizations were asked to clarify the topic and state the activities clearly. For example, Life skills training was clarified further to training on communication skills, setting personal goals, respecting other's point of view, etc...

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- Level of Youth Participation – A section of the questionnaires were dedicated to give a detailed account of the methodologies used in the designing and implementation of the programs and the involvement of youth below the age of 25 in this process.
- Challenges faced – This section was to inquire about technical and funding challenges organizations faced as well as organizational needs including resources, logistics, employee capacity and efficiency, youth outreach and partnership formation.
- Funding and Partnerships– Organizations were asked to give an account of how their projects were financially sustained and of partnership formation.
- Youth Outreach – This section includes the methods used to raise awareness of the local community as to what activities the organizations offer and how the organization attracts their participants.

Field visits were also made to organizations when suitable to facilitate the data collection process and to observe some of the activities being presented as well as to clarify the answers of the questionnaire further. The questions were designed to be inter-dependent on one another and to give as clear and holistic picture of the organization as possible.

Data Entry – Data collected from forms was initially checked by the research team upon receipt and cross checked with organizations if the information did not add up or did not make sense. Field visits were also conducted at this stage if data collection required site observation or more detailed discussions with the organization itself. The forms were also screened so that activities available to the local community that were not within the targeted age group were omitted.

Focus Groups - Six Focus Groups were conducted in seven governorates and 48 youth took part in these discussions. Participants were selected to represent youth who were interested in the activities their local community offered them:

1. Number of Participants and Age: Each focus group consisted of 7 to 9 participants, all within the age group of 18 – 24.
2. Education: All participants except from Karak and Tafileh were university students. Karak and Tafileh youth were not all university students but represented the very active youth faction of their local community.
3. Geographical Location: Each focus group meeting was conducted with participants from the same governorate which included Mafraq, Jerash, Ajloun, Irbid, Tafileh, and Karak in separate focus group meetings, except for the focus group from Central Jordan, which consisted of participants from both Amman and Zarqa.
4. Level of Activity: The participants of the focus groups were mostly active members of the community who were either volunteers or were actively participating in activities offered by organizations in their governorate or who were members or owners of a youth initiative or CSO in the

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governorate. It was also ensured that a few of the focus group participants were non-active members of the community so that their points of views were taken into consideration.

The focus group was conducted using interactive, participatory activities using the third person projection to create an atmosphere where the participants could relate to a scenario and feel more comfortable with providing their opinions. The focus group activities and discussions covered the following:

- How youth view their governorate in terms of image
- Youth needs
- Activity opportunities provided for youth in their governorate
- Level of youth participation in programs design and implementation
- Outreach to involve different youth in programs and the reasons for the 'same faces' problem

Mapping Team:

1. ***Volunteers and Interns*** – Two volunteers and one intern took part in the data collection and data entry process on a longer term basis. A number of other volunteers assisted the research team on a shorter term basis according to their availability. Most volunteers were identified by the YPEER Network Coordinator with 2 volunteers being referred from other reliable sources that were personal connections. The volunteers were trained on the questionnaires and what data the main research team required them to collect when contacting organizations and how to ensure that the data collected was reliable and did not pose any questions. The roles of the volunteers included:
 1. Follow-up with organizations to ensure that questionnaires were completed and to collect any gaps in the data from organizations. This was done mostly through phone calls but field visits were made by the volunteers when necessary in coordination with the main research team
 2. Identify organizations and Youth Initiatives from the various governorates the volunteers came from (outreach to volunteers' network) and contact them to collect the data of the questionnaire so that they may be included in the Mapping exercise
 3. Data entry which included entering the data into an Access sheet and classification of the data into categories such as the level of participation according to Hart's Ladder of Participation with the assistance of the Main Research Team
2. ***Main Researcher:***
 1. Research organizations and informal youth groups from various governorates to contact so that they may be a part of the Mapping Exercise.
 2. Conduct initial phone calls and field visit to introduce the organizations and the informal youth groups to the objectives of the Mapping Exercise and to collect the required information from these organizations and youth groups.

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3. Follow-up on the completion of the questionnaires to ensure that all the data was collected and that all the information gathered were clear. This was done through phone calls, e-mails and field visits.
 4. Issue formal letters that were signed by the UNFPA Assistant Representative to various organizations so that all the information gathered were done so under an official purpose.
 5. Develop a database in which all the data gathered from organizations could be collected and analyzed.
 6. Analysis of the data collected and writing a report to document all analyzed findings.
3. ***Assistant Researcher:***
1. Research organizations and informal youth groups from various governorates to contact so that they may be a part of the Mapping Exercise.
 2. Make contact with organizations from the network of the assistant researcher so that outreach to more organizations that work with youth and informal youth groups could be made to include in the Mapping Exercise.
 3. Conduct initial phone calls and field visits to introduce the organizations and the informal youth groups to the objectives of the Mapping Exercise and to collect the required information from these organizations and youth groups.
 4. Follow-up on the completion of the questionnaires to ensure that all the data was collected and that all the information gathered were clear. This was done through phone calls, e-mails and field visits.
 5. Contribute to the analysis of the data collected.

Challenges and Limitations:

These are the following challenges and limitations that the research team faced during the Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan exercise:

1. Unclear Target – The Mapping exercise targeted all organizations that work with youth in all sectors and was not specific to the type of organizations that included civil society organizations, non-profit organizations, governmental organizations, cultural centers, unions, commissions, informal youth groups, royal NGOs and INGOs. Since there are over 4000 civil society organizations registered alone, this created an unclear and enormous number for the research team to contact and include in the Mapping exercise.

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2. Time Frame of Research – The timeframe of the research was 3 months and this limited the amount of organizations that the Research Team could map, especially when it concerned the organizations in the governorates. The month of Ramadan limited the data collection process due to the nature of work in this Holy Month and the commitment that organizations could present us with for data collection.
3. Cooperation of Organizations – Since the research team made the effort to contact all organizations and acquaint them with the nature of the study, many of the organizations initially exhibited an interest in participating in the research. However, because the nature of data collected required a senior member of the organization to complete it, this greatly hindered the completion of the questionnaire because these members were usually very busy with their daily tasks and prioritized completing their own work before completing the questionnaire or meeting with the Research team to complete the questionnaire. In other instances, with the large, branched organizations, the data could not be completed by one person and required its circulation so that various members of the team could complete the questionnaire which in turn greatly delayed the collection of this data by the Research Team. It was difficult to collect data from the government sectors such as the Ministries because the information could not be located to be with a given contact(s).
4. Commitment of Volunteers – A main challenge the research team faced in the study was with finding volunteers that could commit to working on data collection and data entry and could follow-up with the organizations till the required data was collected, which meant a longer term, more demanding commitment. The Research Team was incapable of setting up a team of volunteers in each governorate to keep track of the organizations to be included in the Mapping exercise because of the inability to find a team of committed volunteers in each governorate. The lack of commitment on the volunteers' part was due to:
 - The nature of the work - The work was mostly demanding office work that required weekly commitment for a number of days and required a variety of skills to complete, like Arabic communication skills to contact organizations and ICT literacy skills to enter data into the Access sheet.
 - Transportation – Many of the volunteers lived in different governorates that were a far distance from Amman and could not come to the office from their homes on a regular basis.
 - Financial compensation – Volunteers requested financial compensation for coming to the office on a regular basis to pay for the transportation fees.
5. Reliability of the Data Collected - This was due to the following reasons:
 - Many of the organizations that were mapped lacked the official data we were collecting such as the number of male and female participants and so gave us an approximate estimate.
 - Continuous change – Several organizations were in the final phase of the project implementation and informed us that programs were going to change during the next coming phase. This was especially true for the Zaatari Camp.

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Introduction

The aim of this Research exercise was to map the activities available to youth aged 10 to 24 years old in all the governorates of Jordan to recognize what is available to youth and the levels of interventions and the gaps that are yet to be filled. According to the Ministry of Social Development, there are 4,555 registered CSOs in Jordan alone, in addition to non-profit organizations, unions, associations, clubs, Royal NGOs and government organizations. Although many of these organizations are either inactive at the current time or do not target youth for their activities, the numbers of organizations that work with youth is still massive.

Since the time frame of this exercise was limited to 3 months, the research team attempted to map organizations that offered various activities to youth in all the governorates so that it may provide a picture representative of what is available to youth in Jordan. The mapping exercise included any organization that offered youth with activities in any of the sectors and the research team took the active organizations into consideration, bearing in mind that organizations in all sectors were mapped and in all governorates. Although this bears a sample number of all the organizations that offer youth with activities in Jordan, it is a strong initiation point to analyze what is being provided, bearing in mind that many of the CSOs and other organizations work in the same field and implement very much similar projects. For this reason, the research team made a qualitative analysis of the data to classify activities in each of the sectors according to international standards, MDGs, and the UN and governmental policies.

It is essential to point out that although the target age group defined as youth in this mapping exercise is 10 – 24 years old, the research team took into consideration activities offered that covered a wider range of age groups with a large percentage of the participants being youth in the target age group of this research. For example, the activities offered by an organization included an age group of 6 to 50 years old but the organization stated that a large portion of the participants were 10 to 24 years old. Other organizations were more focused on targeting a youth age group such as school students or university students. For the sake of this mapping exercise, both types of organizations were mapped and a detailed account of the age group range for the organizations' and informal youth groups' participants can be accessed in the database.

This report aims at analyzing activities of organizations, CSOs and informal youth groups in various sectors that participated in this mapping exercise and emphasizes that analysis was based on the activities rather than the organizations themselves. However, some reference was made to organizational trends when appropriate. The final section of this report discusses the outreach methods, challenges and funding opportunities that these organizations, CSOs and informal youth groups, faced when implementing the activities they offered to youth.

For the purpose of clarification, activities in each of the Education, Environment, Health, Civic Participation and Engagement were analyzed and the results will be illustrated in each of the sector sections below. The section that analyses activities provided for youth based on the geographic distribution includes

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analysis of activities in other sectors including the arts and culture sector, charity work and voluntary work. This Mapping Exercise does not cover the whole scope of non-profit companies, CSOs and informal youth groups working with and for youth in Jordan, but can only be considered an initial attempt to present an overview of the activities, programs and initiatives concerning youth in Jordan.

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Education

Education is a main priority of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan as it plays a major role in the comprehensive development of the country at various levels. With Jordan's limited financial and natural resources, the country aims at investing in its richest resource, the education of its citizens. Jordan is a leader among Arab countries in educational spending as a percentage of GDP.

As a result, Jordan is becoming closer to achieving the Education for All goals. In October 2009, Her Majesty Queen Rania was among one of the World Leaders to support this Global Campaign to provide Education for All by 2015 as a human right and a means to tackling poverty. When individuals have the chance to learn basic life and literacy skills, economies grow faster and poverty rates decline. When people go to school, they are able to eventually earn more money and support their families. Quality education is the key to achieving a healthier, safer and more equitable society.

The organizations that were mapped and who offered activities in the Education sector were classified into categories according to the Education for All goals that the organization was assisting Jordan in achieving. These categories include: Providing Higher Education Opportunities for All to Decrease Wealth Disparities, Improving the Quality of Education, Providing Reading Resources to Improve Literacy, Addressing Drop out Children, Developing Life Skills and Developing Employability Skills.

Providing Higher Education Opportunities for All to Maintain Narrow Wealth Disparities

According to the 2012 Global Monitoring Report, only 1% of 17 to 22 year olds in Jordan, whether rich or poor, are affected by extreme education poverty.* This does not indicate the quality of education difference between rich or poor but that the wealth disparity is among the narrowest in the world for the opportunity of being provided a higher education. This is particularly enhanced by various Initiatives around the country that support underprivileged students to complete their university and vocational education.

*EFA Global Monitoring Report; Youth and Skills: Putting Education to Work, UNESCO, 2012

As Table 1 (below) suggests, there is a good representation of organizations that provide youth with full and partial scholarships to complete their university, college or vocational studies spread out in all of the governorates. Al Aman Fund for the Future of Orphans and the Jordan Society for the Care of Orphans and Widows target orphan youth with these scholarship opportunities. A unique scholarship opportunity is the Mousab Khourma Youth Education & Scholarship Fund provided by Ruwwad where students in Tafileh, Amman and Aqaba are asked to provide 4 hours of community service in return for their

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scholarship and are provided with the opportunity to design and implement an Initiative to serve the local community. This forms a basis on which many of the Ruwwad initiatives and projects are founded and offers an excellent example of an opportunity for youth civic engagement in return for the scholarship opportunity. There is also a representation of unregistered Initiatives such as Allemny, Merciful Father's University Fund, and Sawiyyeh which study individual cases of youth and collect donations to support underprivileged students to complete their higher education, whether that is university or vocational courses.

Table 1. Organizations that provide Scholarship Opportunities for Underprivileged Youth

Organization	Activity	Governorate
Al Hayat Education Fund	Partial and full scholarships - university or vocational studies	All governorates
Al Aman Fund for the Future of Orphans	Full scholarships for orphans - university, college or vocational study including medical insurance & living costs	All governorates
Jordan Society for the Care of Orphans and Widows	University scholarships – orphans and underprivileged	Mafraq
Mousab Khourma Youth Education & Scholarship Fund provided by Ruwwad	4 hour community service for full university scholarship	Tafileh, Amman, Aqaba
Zikra Initiative - Zikra Education Fund	University scholarship	(Ghor Al Mazra'a) Karak
Under My Olive Tree	Full and partial university and college scholarships	Irbid, Zarqa, Jerash, Amman

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Merciful Father	Partial university tuition fees	Balqa'a, Zarqa, Amman, Madaba
Steps	Vocational studies support	Irbid, Karak, Mafraq, Ajloun, Amman
Allemny Saweyya	Collecting individual donations to pay university tuition fees	Irbid, Zarqa, Amman, Jerash, Amman

Although there was a distribution of these opportunities being provided to youth from most of the governorates, the majority of these opportunities were provided for youth in Amman. Youth focus group participants from the Tafileh governorate identified more scholarship opportunities as one of their needs, which reflects the importance of this component for youth in governorates other than Amman.

Improving the Quality of Education

The biggest challenge Jordan is facing is improving the quality of education for all. The quality of education varies and there are wide learning gaps between socio-economic groups which now need to be addressed. In 2009, only 16% of girls from poorer households were at or above level 2 in mathematics, compared to 57% of girls from richer households*. To emphasize the importance of this goal, youth focus group participants identified activities that improve the quality of education as one of their main needs. Focus group participants from Mafraq, Ajloun, Amman, Zarqa, and Jerash emphasize the need for activities that improve the quality of English language education and participants from Mafraq, Tafileh and Karak emphasized the need for school and university educational enrichment programs and the provision of scientific research and labs.

*Education for All Global Monitoring Report, Jordan Factsheet, UNESCO, Feb 2012

To address this challenge, the Madrasati Initiative and the Jordan Education Initiative (JEI) are examples of Queen Rania Initiatives that aim at enhancing that quality of education in government schools in all governorates by building the capacity of both teachers and students. JEI aims at improving the quality of education in government 'Discovery Schools' by integrating technology into the educational system to develop students' 21st century skills so that they may meet the 21st century market needs. This includes educational e-programs in various subjects including Math, Science and English and developing Arabic e-content. Madrasati works with teachers by building their capacity in subjects such as English, Science and Math, and training them on how to cater to

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students with special needs and how to create a safe and healthy learning environment. Other organizations that build the capacity of teachers include Tashbeek for Sustainable Development and Media that train teachers on active learning to achieve understanding.

In addition to capacity building, organizations offer youth with a variety of subject enrichment activities to enrich and improve the quality of education. The Children's Museum offers youth with more than 150 models in its exhibition that enrich the national curriculum and provide an opportunity for scientific exploration and experimenting outside the classroom. In addition to this, the Children's Museum offers a variety of educational activities and shows to support experiential learning and the development of the 21st century skills. Similarly, the Jubilee Institute, which caters to the needs of the gifted and high achieving students from all governorates, provides a wide range of scientific events and challenges for these students. These include a number of Science and Math enrichment programs including the Math and Chess Program, Domino Program to experiment with Physics and Math, GEMS program, the Robotics lab which hosts the First Lego League Competition on a regional and international level and the Science Garden, which is a leading national project that allows children to observe and experiment the practical applications of complex theoretical concepts in Physics, Chemistry, Math and IT to name some of the Jubilee Institute's programs. The Princess Basma Youth Resource Center's (PBYRC) Eureka Science Program consists of portable science and environment labs that supplement the national curriculum and develop students' investigative skills and allows them to link knowledge to real life experiences. It is worth noting that the Children's Museum caters to younger students up to the age of 13 years old whereas most of the Jubilee Institute's programs including the Science Garden and PBYRC's Eureka Science Program (youth aged 10 – 16 years old) cater to the needs of older students in middle and secondary school up to the age of 18 years old. There is no indication of coordination between these organizations to give a comprehensive enrichment experience for youth in all age groups. Although the Children's Museum is open to all children from all governorates, the Jubilee Institute and the PBYRC Eureka Science program is not available to all youth, which reflects the need for more educational enrichment programs that can be provided for a wider youth audience in all governorates.

Providing Reading Resources to Improve Literacy Skills

Since improved literacy skills will improve the social and economical well-being of youth as they become adults, a number of organizations have set up services to provide youth with the resources and activities to encourage reading. More than half of the initiatives included in this mapping exercise were established after the Arab Thought Foundation's statistic in December 2011 stated that Arabs read an average of 6 minutes a year, which is a statistic that is now questioned and considered a myth by many.

Of the most prominent organizations that encourage reading, the Abdul Hameed Shoman Library provides a wide range of books in Arabic, English and French to the public and has extended these services by establishing a library in every governorate. Its Knowledge Path Children's Library is a large space consisting of a wide range of children's books and offers children of all ages with creative and reading activities to develop their exploratory skills. Steps is

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another example of a civil society organization that was involved in setting up libraries in Irbid, Karak, Mafraq, Amman and Ajloun and provides various children's activities in these libraries such as the "World Read Aloud Day".

In addition to setting up libraries, other organizations and Initiatives were involved in encouraging reading through reading groups. The Salt Youth Coalition has a Reading Initiative which provides youth with a range of social, political and cultural books to read and discuss as a group. Similarly, the unregistered Bookloop Initiative discusses books from its portable library in Amman and Irbid through monthly meetings using a variety of creative presentations such as role play. The Kitabi Kitabak Initiative is pro-active in encouraging reading through reading clubs for youth of all ages as well as through Muppet shows, plays, and animation cartoons. Kitabi Kitabak also provides opportunities for orphans to enjoy the world of reading and offers training on how to read stories with expression.

Other organizations worked to enrich the Arabic content resources available such as the Mujaddidun Jordan Society's Arabic Tongue Project which translates foreign books, articles and videos into Arabic. One of the unique examples that is supported by the Madrasati Initiative is the Raneen Foundation, which was initiated and is also led by a visually impaired adult who designs audio stories in Classical Arabic for children up to the age of 16. It aims to develop students' listening and Arabic language skills as well as their creative and critical thinking skills through the thought provoking questions and activities after the story has been read. The Madarasati Initiative has trained teachers in public schools to use Raneen Foundation's audio stories to enrich the Arabic language curriculum.

These reading activities, whether through libraries or through reading groups is most concentrated in Amman and Irbid but do not occur as often in other governorates. Focus Group participants in Mafraq, Irbid, Amman and Ajloun identified the establishment of a library and/or reading activities as one of their needs and Irbid focus group participants identified a need for audio books. None of the focus group participants mentioned reading activities as being offered to them in their community.

Addressing Drop-out Children

With 9 out of 10 children enrolling in primary school, Jordan has one of the lowest numbers of young people without a primary school education in the region.* However, the below table in figure 1, which illustrates the out-of-school rate for children of primary school age from 1985 to 2012, indicates that the percentage of out-of-school children decreased gradually from 1985 to 2007 with a few fluctuations but begins to rise again from 2008 to 2012. The increase could be attributed to the occurrence of the Arab Spring and the Syrian crisis in the last few years.

*Education for All Global Monitoring Report; Youth and Skills: Putting Education to Work, UNESCO, 2012

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Figure 1: Percentage of out-of-school children of Primary School age for various years

% of out – of- school children	1985	1999	2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2010	2011	2012
Total	9.3	2.52	1.15	0.94	1	1.16	0.69	0.98	0.7	1.26	2.58	2.4	2.9
Male	11.5	3.51								1.56	1.9	1.66	2.13
Female	6.92	1.46								0.95	3.28	3.07	3.68

* Source: Education Statistics (World Bank), December 2014

According to the Population Reference Bureau, out of school adolescents for lower secondary education between 2005 and 2011 was 6% for females and 30% for males. This out-of-school population could be attributed to a variety of reasons. The below table in figure 2 illustrates some of the reasons for youth drop out based on a study conducted by SWTS. It is observed from the table that the highest percentage of children dropped out of school because of lack of interest and then due to failed examinations. For males, the third highest proportion left school to find work and for females, it was to get married.

Figure 2: Youth by reason for leaving school (%)

Reason	Total	Male	Female
Not interested	35.8	39.1	31.4
To start working	9.3	15.2	1.2
To get married	8.2	0	19.4
Parents did not want me to continue	2.4	1.0	4.2
Economic reasons	6.7	8.3	4.6
No school nearby	0.7	0.3	1.4

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Failed examination	33.0	32.8	33.3
Other	3.4	3.3	4.5

*Source: SWTS-Jordan, 2012–13.

Organizations in Jordan appear to tackle the reasons that children drop out of school to overcome this issue. Save the Children's 'Promising Futures' program established Social Support Centers in Mafrq, Zarqa, Amman and Ma'an. Those centres provided psychosocial support to child laborers and educational and vocational support for drop-out children aged 7 to 17 years old to encourage them to re-enroll in schools or to complete an MoE certified non-formal education program that will qualify them to enroll in vocational skills training courses. The Mujaddidon Jordan Society's 'Human Project' works differently in that it tackles poverty as the main reason for drop-out children and creates small income generating projects for poor families so to ensure that they may enroll their drop-out children back into school.

The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2013 – 2017 states that the net enrollment of children aged 6 – 15 years old for primary education for 2010 – 2011 is 98.34%. Although Jordan is successful in achieving Goal 2 of the Millenium Development Goals (MDGs) to provide universal primary education, the out-of-school rate of adolescents in secondary and tertiary education may hint at a need to tackle this issue more vigorously with projects that will assist in tackling the reasons for drop-out children and adolescents.

Developing Life Skills

The social and economic challenges of the recent years with the occurrence of the Arab Spring have emphasized a need for youth to develop the skills necessary for life and work. Although there is no single definition for life skills, and the concept is elastic including a range of skills and knowledge, we have defined life skills in this research as the interpersonal and intrapersonal skills required for youth to interact appropriately with others to make decisions that will allow them to live productive and active lives in their communities. There are a number of ways that youth can develop these skills, of which a good quality of secondary education is the most effective. A multitude of organizations work to enrich the educational curriculum so that students are provided with opportunities to develop life skills outside of school should the development of these skills be lacking from a secondary education alone. To simplify the types of activities that organizations carry out to develop life skills, they have been broadly classified into activities that Develop Leadership Skills; Promote Positive Thinking; Develop Interpersonal Skills; and Develop Intrapersonal Skills. Although activity type may overlap and can be classified into more than one of these categories, we took into consideration the main objective of the activities to classify them into one of these categories.

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Table 2: Classification of Life Skills Activities

Organizations	Project/ Program/ Initiative	Type of Activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AISEC's 'Crossroads' Program; Youth Spirit Center's 'Leadership Jam' - Al Hikaya Center; Madrasati Initiative's Summer and Winter Camp; Enhancing Leadership and Success Skills Initiative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cultural Exchange to develop leadership skills - Leadership training 	Develop Leadership Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be Positive Initiative - Al Jude for Scientific Care's Happiness Project through social media; New Think Initiative's Forum; Social Kitchen: Taghmees through sharing of success stories; 'Am Nit hala (We are Having Dessert) Initiative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interactive sessions on Positive Thinking - Exchange of inspirational ideas and stories 	Promote Positive Thinking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ruwwad's Debate Club; Al Tashbeek Center for Sustainable Development and Media; Debate Foundation - Bel Hiwar Nasmu wa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training on debate skills such as active listening, critical thinking skills, analytical skills, accepting and respecting other people's opinions 	Develop Interpersonal Skills

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<p>Nartaqi ; Youth for Youth Association; Zaha Cultural Center – Karameesh Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Madrasati Initiative - Summer and Winter Camp - Jordan River Foundation's Life Skills Manual 'From One Youth to Another' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training on communication skills such as establishing dialogue, conflict resolution, neurolanguage and body language - Self-expression through drawing and theater - Advocating Knowledge to Youth by Youth (interpersonal skills and social skills) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Under My Olive Tree; Al Aman Fund for the Care of Orphans Al Hayat Education Fund; Kitabi Kitabak Initiative; - Al Jude for Scientific Care's Miqdam Initiative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training on Self-Confidence, Self-Awareness, and Self-Development - Training Camps to develop students' self-confidence, commitment, responsibility, learning from failure, persistence and dedication 	<p style="text-align: center;">Develop Intrapersonal Skills</p>

Table 2 illustrates the type of activities that may be classified into each one of the above categories and examples of organizations that carry out each of these activities. Leadership development opportunities whether through cultural exchange or through training was offered to youth in all governorates but it was still a need as identified by the youth focus groups from Irbid. An informal youth initiative that aimed at promoting positive thinking and is unique in its nature is the Be Positive Initiative. This youth initiative provides interactive sessions for Tawjihi students of boys and girls schools in underprivileged areas in Maan on topics such as self-awareness, how to develop and achieve goals and how to replace negative thinking with positive thinking. Positive Thinking is further promoted through opportunities like Al Jude for Scientific Care's New Think Festival, which features a number of creative and educational topics in

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'booths' to inspire youth to think positively, develop their ideas and goals and to achieve their dreams. Similarly, the Social Kitchen: Taghmees and the unregistered Initiative 'Am Nit hala (We are Having Dessert) work to inspire youth and the local community from success stories and to build dialogue and develop communication skills of participants, providing an example of how certain programs may work on developing more than one of the life skills classifications illustrated in the above table.

Developing Interpersonal skills is an essential life skill that focus group participants from most governorates mentioned as activities of a major need in their communities. Developing leadership and communication skills are examples of interpersonal skills because they are necessary for youth to interact positively and work effectively with others. Although many organizations aim at developing these life skills by setting up Debate Clubs or Groups and training participants on debate skills, it is worth mentioning that Debate Clubs are also set up with the objective of promoting civic engagement and participation and we will illustrate these Debate Clubs in the section tackling Civic Engagement and Participation. Other organizations develop communication skills through training programs such as the Zaha Cultural Center's Karamesh Program which provides neurolanguage training and develops self-confidence and self-dependence skills. The unregistered Informal Youth Initiative Bel Hiwar Nasmu wa Nartaqi trains youth on communication and conflict resolution skills and their ability to express their ideas and opinions while respecting others. The Jordan River Foundation (JRF) relies on youth themselves and incorporates a sense of responsibility of youth to develop the life skills of their peers. JRF gives training for a number of youth 16 to 18 years of age on interpersonal skills, social skills and on what Youth Initiatives are and trains them how to convey this content to other youth through a Life Skills Manual called "From One Youth to Another".

The final classification made of activities covered in this Mapping Exercise to develop life skills is the development of intrapersonal skills. Intrapersonal skills relate to the thought process and mental abilities of one's self that contribute to effective decisions and actions and allow success in personal and professional relationships. Whereas interpersonal skills relies on interaction with others, intrapersonal skills is about communication with one's self. The Miqdam Initiative, also a part of Al Jude for Scientific Care develops students' self-confidence, commitment, responsibility, learning from failure, persistence and dedication through the completion of challenging games with the assistance of trained experts in a training camp. Upon completion of the training camp and acquisition of these skills, students then come up with initiatives with their teachers to serve their school and local community.

We must emphasize that many of the programs and initiatives that work in other sectors, especially Civic Engagement and Participation, also work on developing the life skills of their participants as an essential element of their projects. Although activities that develop life skills were widely offered to youth in all governorates, it was still a major need mentioned by the focus group participants from almost all governorates. One of the focus group participants from Zarqa stated that the life skills training he had attended was based on the content the trainer read from manual and not on the practical application of these skills meant for life purposes. This poses a question of how life skills training is conducted rather than the quantity of the activity provided for youth in their communities and the impact it is making on actually developing their life skills.

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Developing Employability Skills –

Jordan suffers from a high youth unemployment rate at 30.6% for youth aged 15 – 24 in 2014, with a figure of 26.3% male unemployment and 53.3% female unemployment according to the DoS. This is a challenge that can be overcome by creating employment opportunities and equipping youth with the skills required for the market. With the productive potential of youth in Jordan, a bulge of youth entering the labor market could boost the entrepreneurial and economic activity in the country. Since vocational training and work readiness are the ways that the private sector could create employment opportunities for youth, the organization activities that were included in this mapping exercise were classified to meet these two objectives. Table 3 summarizes the classification of the various activities to develop youth employability skills.

Table 3: Development of Youth Employability Skills Activities

Organization / Nature of Activity	Type of Activity	Governorate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leaders of Tomorrow (LoT) Mustakbalna Initiative for Grade 12 students - Leaders of Tomorrow For9a Initiative that informs youth of the various opportunities available to them through its website 	Social and Academic Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amman, Zarqa and Karak - All governorates / regional scope
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Under My Olive Tree - JEl’s Internship Program for Technical Support of Government Schools - Ruwwad Internship in banks, private and media companies - JRF – 6 month internship in hotel management 	Internship Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amman, Zarqa, Jerash, Irbid - All governorates - Tafileh, Amman, Aqaba - All governorates - All governorates

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LoYAC's Darb Program – internship in private sector companies; - LoT Internship 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional level
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Al Aman Fund for the Future of Orphans – networks orphans with employment opportunities - Al Hayat Educational Fund - networks students with private sector looking for employees - All Jordan Youth Commission – Employment Exhibitions - PBYRC Employment Centers – capacity building and employment networking and exhibitions - Jordan Society for the Care of Orphans and Widows – network with vocational centers - The Queen Rania Center for Entrepreneurship (QRCE) – Private Sector Partnerships to encourage entrepreneurship; Networking between Universities and the Industrial World - The Society for the Rehabilitation and Development 	<p>Employment Networking</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All governorates - All governorates - All governorates - Mafraq, Irbid, Amman - Mafraq - Karak, Irbid, Mafraq, Amman, Maan - All governorates

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<p>of Rural Women- links women to private sector companies (following university scholarships)</p> <p>Injaz Job Fairs</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vocational Training Centers – which are parts of the Ministry of Labor - The Society for the Rehabilitation and Development of Rural Women – Productive Kitchen Project how to make foods preservatives such as jams and pickles, etc. - Allemny Initiative - Jasmine Society for Down’s Syndrome Patients; Queen Zain Al Sharaf Charitable Society - handicrafts - Maan Women’s Charitable Society 'Your Work is your Responsibility" Program - Yarmouk Society for the Care of the Disabled: training disabled citizens workshops (Knowledge Hub, leather bag production, ...) (Irbid) - Women’s Working Society – Agricultural Fund to build 	<p>Vocational Training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All governorates - Amman, Zarqa, Irbid - Maan - Irbid - Zarqa - Amman - Amman and Zarqa

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

<p>capacity of farmers (How to make organic fertilizers, etc...) and financial support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Innovation and Employability Scholarships - developing employability skills - Care International – beauty care, cooking, and computer maintenance 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Queen Rania National Award for Entrepreneurship - JOHUD through its poverty pockets program - JRF through its poverty pockets program - KHF through its poverty pockets program - Women’s Working Society - support women IGPs with funding sources; Youth for Work Program - Al Wadi Charitable Society – mosaic art and handicrafts - Jordan Society for Humans and Earth – IGPs to fight poverty - Shams Al Kheir Initiative 	<p>Encouraging Small IGPs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Irbid, Karak, Tafileh, Amman, Maan - Zarqa - Maan - Jerash - all governorates - Mafraq - Tafilah, Amman - Karak - Amman, Irbid - Maan - All governorates

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

<p>(women projects)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Al Safawi Charitable Society – bus project + supermarket project for 2 youth - Taghmees Initiative – food preserves such as jam and pickles - Ghor Al Safi Women’s Charitable Society – agricultural water networks; embroidery and soil coloring ; handicrafts; - Abella Initiative - Maan Women’s Charitable Society –funding small IGPs - Society for the Rehabilitation and Development of Rural Women – handicraft exhibition / Productive House Gardens and Water Harvest Project - NEF – starting and developing IGPs - Al Jude Center for Scientific Care – school students IGPs - Tamweelcom Fikrati Award – financial and technical support - KHF Poverty Pockets – Women’s Business Incubator 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zarqa - All governorates - All governorates - Aqaba, Irbid
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Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

The majority of focus group participants emphasized the need for creating job opportunities in Karak, Tafileh, Irbid, and vocational training opportunities in Ajloun. Focus group participants in Irbid identified career guidance in grade 12 and academic guidance in grade 10 as a need which they felt was not being catered to and overlooked by organizations. This mapping exercise could be an indication that of all the organizational activities which aimed at developing youth employability skills, only one organization provided career guidance to school students to prepare them for their transition into university life. The Leaders of Tomorrow (LoT) Mustakbalna Initiative works closely with grade 10 and 11 students to provide them with useful information about career tracks and educational opportunities and limitations so that they are more capable of making sensible educational and career decisions.

The Arab World has long recognized the importance of education and its role in economic development. Providing youth with secondary education is an important aspect to preparing them for the labor market. The internship opportunity that Ruwwad provides in partnership with the private sector is for youth who have been awarded their university scholarships. Similarly, employment networking provided by Al Aman and Al Hayat Educational Funds were for students who received their scholarship funds to follow up with these students from their university or vocational studies to ensure that they were provided with employment opportunities in the private sector. This is a good practical approach to preparing these students for the labor market and then assisting them with finding employment. However, the downside to this is that these opportunities are limited to the students who receive the organization's scholarship funds and in the case of Al Aman Fund for the Future of Orphans who target orphans does not offer this opportunity to a wider spectrum of youth in all governorates.

Internship opportunities range from promoting certain career tracks such as the Jordan River Foundation's 6 month hotel management internship to the Leaders of Tomorrow's internship program that provides an opportunity for youth from the Arab and international globe to develop their work skills in one of the Lot's initiatives. Organizations such as LoYAC's Darb program build the capacity of youth before they are linked with a multitude of private sector organizations in different areas.

It is worth noting that the activities that were classified into employments networking, vocational training and creation of small IGPs were not only offered to youth but also targeted a wider audience that included women and families. In Jordan, of the two thirds of young women available for work, as many as one in three are unemployed. Although women are enrolling in secondary education far more than men, this does not appear to be translating into improvements in their opportunities for work.* Women's Societies such as the Women's Working Society, Al Wadi Charitable Society, the Shams Al Kheir Initiative, the Ghor Al Safi Women's Charitable Society, the Maan Women's Charitable Society and the Society for the Rehabilitation and Development of Rural Women all attempt to tackle this obstacle by supporting women in setting up their own small IGPs, which mostly included handicrafts and food preserves such as pickles and jam. The Society for the Rehabilitation and Development of Rural Women is unique in that it provides support for setting up IGPs for women in rural areas.

The Jasmine Society for Patients with Down's syndrome is worth mentioning because it is unique in that it provides vocational training for Down's syndrome patients and then links them with suitable employment opportunities so that they may enhance their livelihood.

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Conclusion:

The Jordanian society is one of the youngest in the world with a median age of 23.9 years old. Jordan looks to investing in its society and overcoming its challenges by creating a generation with an opportunity of education for all.

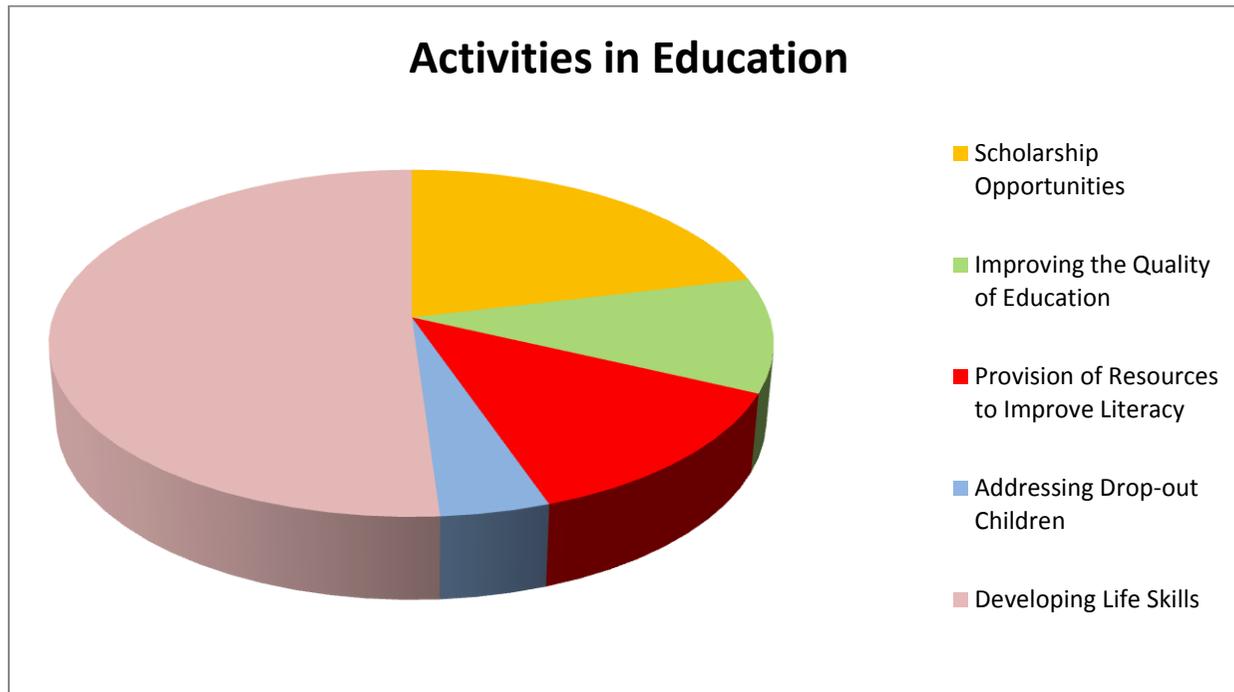
The below figure 4 illustrates the number of educational activities that are executed and classified according to the Education for All goal they are assisting in achieving. It is easy to conclude that the majority of activities of organizations included in this mapping exercise were non-formal education activities in the form of developing life skills. However, activities aiming at developing youth's life skills were mainly in the form of awareness raising activities with a few more practical approaches in the form of debate clubs, camps and cultural exchange programs.

Organizations that provided scholarships for tertiary education, resources to improve literacy and address drop-out children assist in achieving the education for all goals and in maintaining those achievements. The least amount of educational activities included in this mapping exercise addressed drop-out children. Although Jordan has one of the lowest numbers of children who do not receive a primary education in the region, the number of drop-out children has increased according to figure 1 in the last 3 years and this is an issue Jordan does need to address to continue to lead in this area.

Improving the quality of education is a very broad and important area that does determine how well youth can meet the needs of the market. It is one of the biggest challenges Jordan faces and yet, few organizations in this mapping exercise executed activities that aimed at improving the quality of education. These organizations were mostly RNGOs such as the KHF's Jubilee Institute, PBYRC and the Queen Rania initiatives, Madrasati and JEI, because they have access to government schools where there may be a bigger socio-economic gap preventing all children from accessing the same quality of education.

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Figure 4: Numbers of the Types of Educational Activities



The most important reason for educating a society is equipping them with the skills to meet the demands of the job market and creating job opportunities. A variety of organizations, civil societies and informal youth groups are preparing youth for work through vocational training, internship opportunities, networking them with organizations seeking employees and by providing them with financial and/or technical support to create their own income generating projects (IGPs).

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Environment

Jordan's National Agenda for 2006-2015 stated "environmentally-sustainable economic development" as one of the key policy goals and in the 2010 Executive Program, the Government of Jordan announced the launch of "a programme for green services and industries to meet the requirements for adhering to environmental standards and turning Jordan into a regional centre for green services and industries". UNEP defines a green economy as one that results in "improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities" *

The government of Jordan supports initiatives and programs that support its aim of achieving a green economy.* Jordan's main environmental resource challenges that may represent a significant drive towards Jordan's transition towards a green economy include water scarcity, land degradation, air quality, energy conservation, biodiversity conservation and solid waste management.* An important sector that is not addressed in this report is transportation because it is mostly a government driven policy. The organizations that worked in this sector aimed at combating one or more of these challenges and they were classified according to the type of activity into: Waste Removal Activities, Recycling Activities, Water Conservation Activities, Conserving Forest Life Activities and Raising Awareness Activities on Environmental Issues. Table 4 illustrates the environmental activities that were a part of this Mapping Exercise.

**Source; Towards a Green Economy in Jordan, UNEP, 2011, p. 1- 5*

Table 4: Classification of Environmental Activities in Jordan according to the environmental challenges they aim at helping to solve

Classification of Activity	Type of Activity	Description of Organization Project/ Program / Initiative	Governorate
Waste Removal Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clean-up Campaigns of public areas 2. Awareness-raising and Advocacy 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Hassan Youth Award's Environmental Iris Program b. Amal Society for the Care of Orphans and Widows' Lets Start Campaign <ol style="list-style-type: none"> c. Building and Development of Kufranjah City Islamic Cemetery in local community d. Jordan Society of Humans and Earth e. Mazalaty Initiative - Clean the streets Campaign 2. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan (JREDS) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1a. All governorates 1b. Karak 1c. Ajloun 1d. Jerash 1e. Irbid 2a. Amman and Aqaba 2b. Amman (South Hashimi)

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

		<p>Plastic Wastes Project - raise awareness of communities of the dangers of plastic wastes on the marine environment including cleaning campaigns of Aqaba beaches and the sea of plastic wastes as well as training university students of the dangers of plastic wastes so they may serve as advocates of this knowledge to raise awareness of the local communities</p> <p>b. PBYRC Green Station project – raise the awareness of youth on the harmful effect of waste accumulation and trains them how to present this problem to the authorities either through film production, a radio message or through debates so that they can make an impact on finding an effective solution</p>	
Recycling Activities	Recycling	Bread for Education Initiative - collects and recycles old and stale bread from homes, bakeries and malls and sells them to sheep merchants and the money is used to financially support the education of students	Zarqa and Amman
Water conservation Activities	Training on water conservation methods and practical application	<p>a. Hassan Youth Award – gives training on water conservation techniques and students apply theory in a camp</p> <p>b. Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN)/ Azraq Wetland Reserve Project – encourages water conservation by installing water systems at home to recycle used water for irrigation and awareness raising activities for students so they are ambassadors of Azraq Wetland Reserve to advocate to the local community methods to practice water conservation.</p>	<p>a. All governorates</p> <p>b. Zarqa</p>
Conserving Forest Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planting Trees - Awareness 	<p>a. Hassan Youth award – planting trees through Environmental Iris Project; Arab Group for the Protection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All governorates - Zarqa

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

	<p style="text-align: center;">Raising</p>	<p>of Nature (APN) – The Green Caravan project aims at protecting trees and planting trees through the twinning of government and private schools to allow school students from all governorates to take part in this campaign</p> <p>b. RSCN - Nature Knights Summer Camp activities include collecting data on the number of trees per acre in Al Azraq Nature Reserve to raise awareness of the value of its natural resources including life resources dependent on forest and calculate the risk of forest fires, collecting data on soil analysis, observing forest nature life by installing cameras, cleaning campaigns of the Forest Nature Reserve and taking care of the trees by cutting tree stems are among some of the activities to raise the awareness of school students to the importance of conserving forest environments</p>	
<p>Awareness Raising on Environmental Issues</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raising awareness on water issue in Jordan 2. Raising awareness of school students to environmental issues 3. Raising Awareness to local agricultural practices 4. Raising awareness to Jordan agriculture and environment risks 5. Raising awareness 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. JREDS Youth Journalists for Water Issues Program builds capacity of youth to water problems in Jordan through publishing articles 2. JREDS School Environmental Clubs run by students with supervision of teachers and raise awareness of students to various environmental issues such as water and energy conservation as well as pollution caused by wastes and aims at creating citizens who will care for their school environment as well as take the practices home 3. APN – Food Sovereignty Program – raises the awareness of a group of volunteers as a working group to promote and empower local peasant and family farmer-driven 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amman, Aqaba, Karak 2. Amman, Aqaba, Karak

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

	<p>to the methods of conserving the environment</p> <p>6. Raising awareness of the environmental situation in these tourist areas</p> <p>7. Raising awareness of consumption of local agricultural products</p> <p>8. Raising awareness of harm inflicted upon the environment</p> <p>9. Raising awareness to importance of recycling, water conservation, safe disposal of medical wastes, diversity and conservation of the flora component of the environment</p>	<p>agriculture, fishing, pastoralist-led grazing, and distribution and consumption based on environmental, social and economic sustainability. This aims at empowering these volunteers to influence policies in local, regional and international forums</p> <p>4. APN – If you only knew Campaign for the largest segment of school and university students and brainstorming solutions to these problems.</p> <p>5. Al Numeira Environmental Association - Environmental Education Program empower students to apply conservation methods within school premises</p> <p>6. Al Numeira Environmental Association - Environmental Tourism Program in which participants go on tourist trips to develop an understanding of the environmental situation in these areas</p> <p>7. Al Numeira Environmental Association - Agricultural Program to promote preservation of agricultural resources</p> <p>8. For You My Country Initiative which helps to raise youth awareness of influence of environmental pollution on the climate and encourages planting of trees</p> <p>9. Jordan Association for Protection of Humans and Earth promotes energy conservation by encouraging and facilitating use of solar energy panels to heat water</p>	<p>3. All governorates</p> <p>4. All governorates</p> <p>5. Karak, Dead Sea area</p> <p>6. Karak</p> <p>7. All governorates</p> <p>8. Jerash</p>
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Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

From the above table 4, it is observed that waste removal activities which youth took part in were mostly in the form of cleaning campaigns with a couple of organizations empowering youth to advocate to their local community the importance of keeping the environment clean. These activities took part in various governorates and were offered by large organizations such as Al Hassan Youth Award and Princess Basma Youth Resource Center and informal youth groups. The shortage of water in Jordan makes it a main priority to tackle, however, the above table illustrates that water conservation activities mapped in this exercise were very limited. This was also the case for recycling activities. The only energy conservation activity that the research team found was for the Mastaba Charitable Women's Society but was not included in this mapping exercise because of the nature of the activity. The Mastaba Charitable Women's Society encourages families in the local community of the Jerash governorate to save energy by facilitating the purchase of solar energy heaters. This activity required families to pay for the solar energy heaters and did not fit into the category of 'development' work. One of the awareness raising activities of the Jordan Association for Protection of Humans and Earth was similar to this but this organization's activities were implemented through the Youth Committees of the local community in the Jerash governorate in response to the needs of that community.

Most of the activities provided for youth in the environment sector came under raising awareness of youth to water shortage problems, the importance of local agricultural practices, energy conservation, the harm inflicted on the environment and the importance of taking care of the environment. These activities were offered in various governorates and focused on empowering youth to take future action but did not follow-up on youth action after organizations built their capacity.

Conclusion:

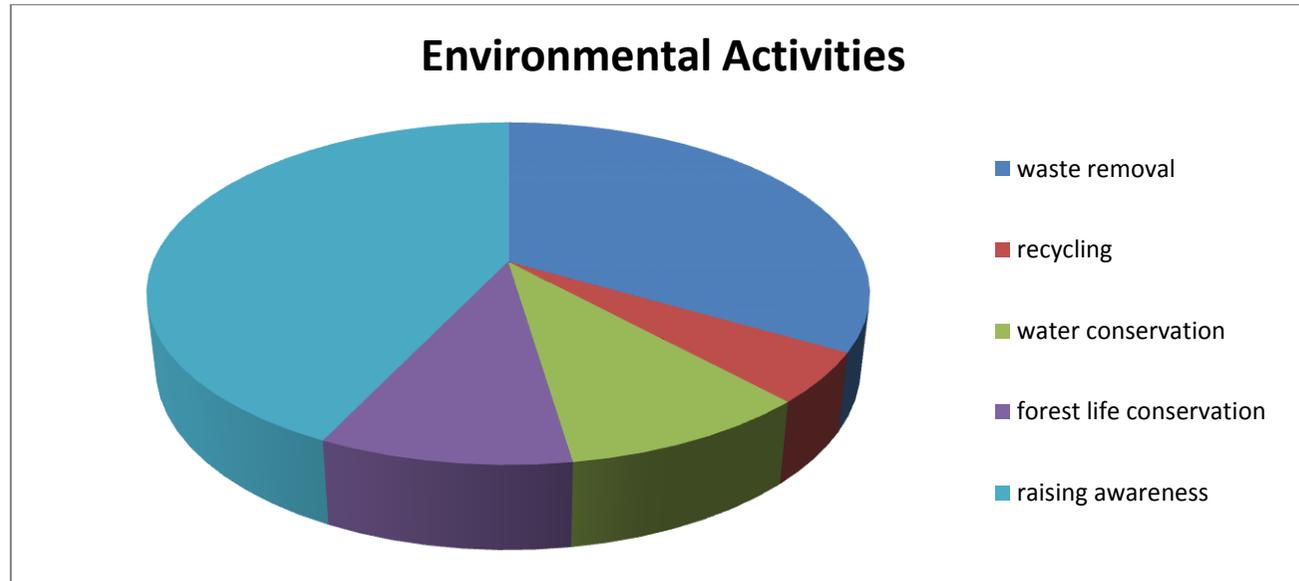
Jordan is one of the smallest economies in the Middle East and unlike other Arab countries, it is non-oil producing with limited natural resources. According to the DoS, the population growth rate was 2.2% in 2012 and 2.4% in 2014 according to the Population Reference Bureau's World Datasheet 2014 which creates a pressure on the nation's limited natural resources. Since Jordan invests in its human resources to overcome its challenges, the high unemployment and inflation rate create overarching challenges for Jordan's green environment. The government encourages various organizational activities that will improve Jordanian's well-being and social equity, while conserving the country's environment and its scarce resources. The below figure 5 illustrates the youth activities included in this mapping exercise that support Jordan achieving a green environment according to the environmental challenges the country faces.

The 2002 National Youth Survey found that youth had low awareness to environmental issues. The most commonly known concepts were air pollution and unsafe waste disposal, followed by overpopulation and water shortages. However, youth did not understand the health implications that these

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

environmental challenges presented. It is clear from the below figure 5 that most of the activities in the sector are awareness raising activities and build the capacity of youth to the challenges of and the importance of conserving the environment in a variety of topics. Referring to the above table 4, we can also observe that even some of the waste removal, water conservation and forest life conservation activities were in the form of raising awareness. This may be due to the fact that Jordan is still in the primary phases of alerting youth and local communities to the importance of conserving the environment, which they may lack. Since raising awareness of youth as referred to by organizations, is in the form of training sessions which usually does not constitute much of a practical component, there is no mechanism to ensure that the issues are being put into practice or that youth know how to put them into practice. Although there were several waste removal activities, either in the form of cleaning campaigns by small CSOs and informal youth groups as well as larger organizations, the number of water conservation and recycling activities were minimal given that water and resources are very scarce in Jordan.

Figure 5: Number of the Types of Environmental Activities



Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Health

Jordan's high quality health care services were ranked by the World Bank in 2010 as the leading medical tourism destination in the Arab World and the fifth globally. "Jordan has made tangible achievements in the health sector, resulting in positive health indicators such as an increase in average life expectancy, decreases in mortality rates of infants and children under 5 as well as the maternal mortality ratio, and decrease in the crude death rate due to communicable diseases, which is considered one of the lowest in the world."* According to the Ministry of Health's Strategic plan for 2013- 2017, the most important objective is to provide comprehensive health insurance for all Jordanians in order to improve the health status of its citizens. To achieve this, Jordan faces important health issues that should be addressed during the coming period.

According to the 2002 UNESCO study, 90% of youth perceived themselves as being in good or very good health. The most important health concern was respiratory tract and gastro-intestinal diseases and some concern with visual impairment problems. Many adolescent youth do not have adequate knowledge of puberty or reproductive health issues.

The Ministry of Health (MoH) has a number of objectives that it is working on achieving which include contribution to the reduction of non-communicable diseases by promoting healthy behaviors such as the reduction of smoking and dietary behaviors that lead to obesity, strengthening reproductive health services, family planning and child health care services, improving the quality, safety and continuity of health care services, and managing risks, crises and disasters effectively which includes raising awareness of the public to disaster response. Other objectives include improving the infrastructure of public health services and medical information systems, building the capacity of the medical staff in the public sector and strengthening the organizational capacity of the MoH. For the purpose of this mapping exercise, organizational and informal youth group activities have been classified according to the national objectives they are to achieve, which include the provision of primary medical services, reproductive health and Gender Based Violence (GBV) activities, promoting healthy lifestyles activities, psychosocial support and mental health awareness activities, first aid training and care for the disabled.

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Table 5: Classification of Health Sector Activities

Organization and Activity	Type of Activity	Governorate
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Portable Mazalaty Clinic - Check up on weight, blood pressure, diabetes check, height, dental check, fat percentage in body, sight and hearing check. 2. Steps - Provides dental and eye sight checks. 3. Al Amal Society for the Care of the Disabled- Free medical day included distribution of wheelchairs for those in need. 4. Dead Sea Society for Health Development - free medical house calls. 5. Jordan's Charitable Society for Caring for Heart Disease Patients and their Families - free clinic in schools to provide medical services for students and for the local community; blood donation campaigns. <p>For You My Country - Blood donation campaign and free medical days</p>	Provision of Primary Medical Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Irbid - Yarmouk and Jadara University 2. Irbid, Mafraq, Amman, Ajloun, Karak 3. Karak 4. Karak 5. Irbid 6. All governorates
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raising awareness and producing educational content to advocate their understanding of reproductive health issues: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. AJYC in cooperation with UNFPA produce educational material using film production, theater and social media b. The Jordan Association for Human Development in cooperation with Care empower youth to use films to raise awareness of early marriage and pregnancy and gender based violence issues c. RHAS Shababna Program in cooperation with UNFPA which empower youth start their own initiatives to incorporate their knowledge into practices in their own universities and local communities 2. Working Women Society use an interactive theater to present gender based 	Reproductive Health and GBV activities	<p>Irbid, Tafileh, Zarqa</p> <p>Jerash</p> <p>???? All governorates</p> <p>Zarqa Jararsh</p> <p>Karak</p>

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

<p>violence scenarios</p> <p>3. Raising awareness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Awareness sessions on reproductive health and breast cancer - Ruwwad Al Najah Group for Voluntary Work b. Tashbeek for Social Development and Media; the Dead Sea Society for Health Development - training and awareness raising of youth on reproductive health and sexually transmitted diseases. c. JRF - training session for girls on importance of exercise and healthy life styles and portraying a positive body image <p>JRF - lectures on breast cancer, reproductive health, methods of contraception as well as hypertension, diabetes and personal hygiene.</p>		<p>Amman and Aqaba</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Combating Drugs and Smoking Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Awareness sessions; Anti-drug campaign; Marathon campaign – Jordan Anti-Drug Society b. Awareness sessions for school and university students - Jordan's Charitable Society for Caring for Heart Disease Patients and their Families; South Ghor Society for Anti-Smoking; Ruwwad Al Najah; Arab Thought and Culture Society; Mujadidoun – 180 degrees project (My morals are my mirror) which includes the Inta Qadha Campaign 2. RHAS Healthy Schools Program – national accreditation in which schools adhere to a set of criteria to create a healthy learning environment. Program includes training school staff and students on health and safety issues including cleanliness, raising awareness of healthy lifestyles such as nutrition and exercise, medical services provided for students and staff including clinic and counselors for social support <p>Think First Project – engages school students with the local community to raise awareness</p>	<p>Promoting Healthy Lifestyles Activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1a. All governorates 1b. Irbid, Jerash, Karak, Tafileh, Amman, Balqa 2.

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<p>of health issues such as first aid, road safety, protection from nervous system damage, safety when using guns</p>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Care International - Psychosocial activities for youth (Jordanians and Iraqis) - recreational activities such as psychodrama, drawings and presenting drawings; building capacity of youth to conduct these psychosocial activities to advocate this type of support. 2. Wellness House - Emotional, psychosocial support to cancer patients; training and diploma certificates on how to care for cancer patients. 3. Tashbeek for Social Development and Media - Psychosocial support for youth (including children) who were subjected to sexual, physical, verbal or emotional abuse - <p>Our Steps - Raise awareness on mental health issues and the accomplishments of people who suffered from mental health issues to merge them with local community.</p>	<p>Psychosocial Support and Mental Health Awareness Activities</p>	<p>Amman, Zarqa</p> <p>Amman Zarqa, Mafraq, Amman</p> <p>All governorates</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mazalaty Initiative 2. Jordan Society for the Care of Orphans and Widows <p>Jordan's Charitable Society for Caring for Heart Disease Patients and their Families</p>	<p>First Aid Training</p>	<p>Irbid</p> <p>Mafraq</p> <p>Irbid</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Al Amal Society for the Care of Disabled - physiotherapy and natural therapy as well as speech therapy for disabled <p>Yarmouk Society for the Care of the Disabled - providing services from specialized personnel to care for the disabled on house calls; raise awareness of local community to the care of disabled.</p>	<p>Support for the Disabled</p>	<p>Karak</p> <p>Irbid</p>

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Reproductive Health and gender based violence (GBV) issues, promoting healthy lifestyles, mental health awareness and first aid training were mostly in the form of awareness raising activities. These include important issues such as combating smoking habits among youth and changing perceptions of females towards gender based violence. Smoking is a popular unhealthy habit among youth and attitude of female youth towards gender based violence is favorable under particular circumstances.

Other health activities provided for youth included providing primary medical services, psychosocial support and support for the disabled and involved medical specialists in the implementation phase. Focus Groups participants in Mafraq, Ajloun and Tafileh emphasized the need for health services and activities in these governorates.

Conclusion:

The majority of Jordan's population, almost 98%, has access to medical services. Jordan is on track for achieving MDG 5 and 6, which is to improve maternal health, and combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases respectively. Figure 6 below illustrates that the largest numbers of health activities in this mapping exercise was to promote healthy lifestyles and raise awareness of reproductive health issues and GBV. Since the 2001 Youth Survey found that 42% of youth aged 15-19 could not define what was meant by reproductive health, these activities are catering to youth needs. Although a large number of the reproductive health and GBV activities were in the form of lectures and trainings, there were also several organizations that used interactive means to encourage interaction with the local community such as the use of an interactive theater or build the capacity of youth to empower them to produce content in the form of films, brochures, theater and to even start their own initiative.

Promoting healthy lifestyles mainly dealt with raising awareness of youth to harmful effects of tobacco, which is a popular unhealthy habit among youth as young as 13. The majority of these activities were in the form of lectures with one organization running more creative events to raise awareness such as marathons. The Think First Program is the only activity that raises awareness of the local community to the dangers of accidents such as road accidents, use of guns and how to administer first aid techniques. In 2004, there were over 9,000 reported injuries for youth aged 16 and below, with one fifth of these accidents resulting in death. A substantial number of these accidents and deaths are as a result of road accidents. This may indicate that more activities of such a nature are required.

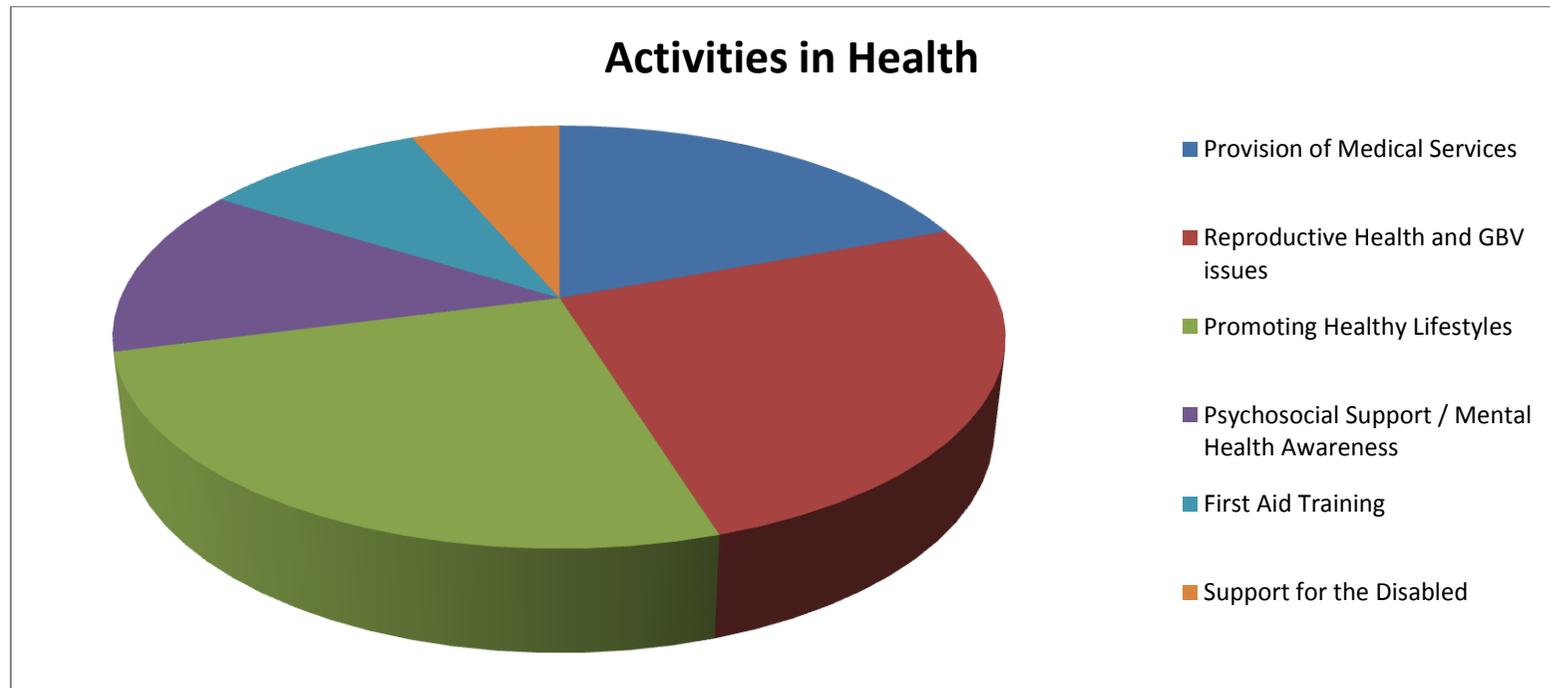
Health activities provided for youth who were physically and mentally challenged were the least number of activities. Other forms of activities were mapped that were offered to youth with physical or mental challenges but these were mostly in the form of social and cultural activities. The Demographic and Health Survey stated that in 2002, 43% of women aged 15 -49 married men who were related to them. Consequently, in 2004, pre-marital examinations were made

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compulsory but these only covered thalassaemia. There are no statistics for the number of persons who are physically or mentally challenged but the most common disabilities include Down's syndrome, autism, mental retardation and hearing and visual impairments.

Figure 6 also illustrates that there were also a small number of psychosocial activities and mental health awareness activities. These included providing support for cancer patients, youth exposed to physical, emotional and psychological support and to Jordanians and Iraqi refugees in the host communities who were exposed to trauma. Only one activity by Our Step, aimed at raising awareness of youth and the local community to the importance of mental health. In 2011, Jordan launched its National Mental Health Policy and Plan in preparation for its implementation and in 2012, a number of medical staff were trained on mental health issues. Organizations should continue to support the government with activities for youth that will provide "quality community mental health services that are equitable, cost effective and accessible to all people."

Figure 6: Number of the Types of Health Activities



Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Civic Engagement and Participation

The participation of youth in civil society is an increasingly important issue as youth compile the largest population group in Jordan and hence, the next generation of leaders, workers and entrepreneurs of the nation. A large number of organizations mapped in this research aimed at improving youth in civic engagement and participation, which was defined by the World Bank as promoting the participation of citizens and their organizations to influence institutions, policies and processes for equitable and sustainable development. There were a number of ways organizations ran activities to achieve increased youth civic engagement and participation and these were classified into Empowering Youth to Create Initiatives, Empowering Youth to serve their Community, Empowering Youth to become Activists, Raising Awareness on Human Rights and Engagement of Youth Voice in Social and Political Issues. Activities may overlap so that they can belong to more than one of these categories but the research team has attempted to clearly allocate activities into one category according to the main objective of the activities.

Participants of focus groups from all governorates emphasized the need for activities and leisure spaces that would engage them and instill a sense of belonging to their communities. Focus group participants from Karak, Irbid and Ajloun were more detailed in identifying their civic engagement needs to include improved Municipal services, good governance, political activities on democracy and independent thinking and combating *wasta*.

Organizational activities that were classified into the category of empowering youth to create initiatives are illustrated in table 6. These activities included either building the capacity of youth or providing them with technical and financial support to create their own initiatives to influence sustainable development. This was achieved in a specific sector such as the Zikra Initiative which empowered youth to create initiatives that preserve their traditional practices and culture to Partners Jordan, which focused on empowering youth to create initiatives that would influence public policies.

Table 6: Organizations that Empower Youth to Create Initiatives

Organization	Activity	Governorate
Zikra's Cultural Education Program	Aims at building capacity of youth to start initiative that preserve the traditions and culture of their local community	All governorates

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

King Hussein Foundation	Provide technical and financial support for a group of youth to start an initiative to serve their local community in a creative way	All governorates
PBYRC Abshir Program	Provide technical and financial support to youth initiatives in the field of human rights awareness to support community development	All governorates
Jordan River Foundation's Ajloun Initiatives	Technical support to create youth initiative that will cover the geographical area of Ajloun	Ajloun
Hikaya Center	Establishing youth initiatives with a clear objective	All governorates
Partners Jordan	Provide full support to initiatives that aim at improving the work environment of civil society; reform and amending laws that require connections or <i>wasta</i>	All governorates
Shabab Share	Provides technical support such as building capacity of youth in project management, how to train volunteers and how to use social media to introduce youth initiative activities; also provides legal consultation on how to register initiative and how to apply for funding	All governorates
Women's Work Society	Build youth capacity in leadership skills and encourages them to start initiatives to serve the community	Zarqa

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Youth for Youth Association in Partnership with UNWomen	Creating Youth Councils in governorates affected by Syrian refugees so that they may create youth initiatives to serve the needs of these communities to be able to influence and promote gender equality in leadership and participation.	
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Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Table 7 illustrates organizations that ran activities to empower youth to serve their community. A number of organizations achieved this through the formation of Youth Councils or Youth Committees to represent the local community. Organizations such as the Jordan Society for Humans and Earth and the Princess Basma Youth Resource Center (PBYRC) build the capacity of their Youth Committees so that they are capable of representing their local community as leaders and are responsible for the execution of activities, or to design and implement activities to meet the needs of their community. Other activities in this category that did not resort to the formation of youth representation to serve the community included raising awareness of youth to their rights and responsibilities, investing in youth potential to encourage them to give back to their community, empowering youth role in community service, instilling values of appreciation for public services and involving youth in election monitoring.

Table 7: Empowering Youth to Serve Their Community

Organization	Activity	Governorate
Youth Network for Development and Innovation	Empowering the role of youth in community service as well as encouraging youth volunteerism through a European Exchange program in which youth represent Jordan	All governorates
Abeesh Youth Salt Cooperative	Election Monitoring – youth volunteers monitor the elections and the election campaign ensuring that candidates abide by campaign law	All governorates
Ruwwad	Organizing the Community Campaign – youth and parents discuss solutions to community challenges such as the ‘reading 6 minutes a year’ problem	
Building and Development of Kufranja	Campaign to assist community during difficulties	Ajloun
Youth for Youth Association	Thank You to Traffic Police Initiative – distribute thank you certificates to traffic police for 3 days	All governorates

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Jordan Society for the Protection of Earth and Humans	Create Youth Local Committees for each area in Jerash and build their capacity as leaders to follow-up and serve their local community as representatives	Jerash
Princess Basma Youth Resource Center	Creating Youth Councils in each governorate that are elected by youth and build their capacity to identify the challenges of the local community and design a plan for their solutions	All governorates
JRF Poverty Pockets Project	Youth Councils hold discussions with youth of the area to identify their needs and implement the activities to meet the needs of these youth	Mafrq, Jerash, Zarqa, Madaba, Amman, Karak, Maan, Aqaba
JRF Aflateen Project	Empowering youth to become responsible citizens by raising their awareness of their rights and responsibilities and by training them on how to budget their financial resources to achieve their goals	Amman
Hikaya Center for Civil Society Development	'Creative Generation Foundation' empowering active and creative youth by investing in their talents so that they may give back to the community	All governorates
Arab Thought and Culture Society	Raise awareness of university students on how to stop violence in universities; raising awareness of youth on how to adapt to Syrian refugee situation	All governorates

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Activities that were classified as empowering youth to become activists are illustrated in table 8 below. Activities in this category include building the capacity of youth to become involved in the political and developmental sectors. Examples of this include Al Sindyan which aims at enhancing women's role in politics and the Jordan Human Development Association which aims at enhancing youth role in Municipality supervision. Other activities include involving youth in influencing policy and an example of this would be the No Honour in Crime Initiative, which aimed to gather signatures for the amendment of families of honor crime victims to claim their personal right. The Youth Parliament Initiative of the Youth for Youth Association attempts at influencing the election of a Parliament candidate who will represent youth.

Table 8: Empowering Youth to Become Activists

Organization	Activity	Governorate
Al Sindyan	Conducted a training session on campaign planning and advocacy for a group of social and political activist women and university students to encourage them to get involved in developmental and political work to enhance the role of the Jordanian woman in politics and the skills required for a successful campaign	All governorates
No Honor in Crime Legal Campaign	Ayna Naqef includes a petition to gather public signatures in support of the amendment to prevent families of victims (who are also the family of the perpetrators as these are intimate and familial crimes) to forsake their personal right. The clause demands that crimes against women be prosecuted under a public right to justice.	Amman and Irbid
Jordan Human Development Association	Build the capacity of youth to supervise work in Municipalities	

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Partners Jordan	Build the capacity in change management and conflict management such as <i>wasta</i> , reform services, participatory planning, facilitating debate and how to win a campaign, in order to facilitate democracy	All governorates
Youth for Youth Association	Youth Parliament Initiative – empower youth to choose and vote for a parliament candidate who will place and follow up on youth issues as a priority	

Table 9 illustrates organizational activities that raise awareness of youth to human rights issues and focus on pushing for implementation of the international human rights conventions, especially focused on women’s and children’s rights. The objective of these activities is to ensure the implementation of the stated human rights by campaigning and informing people of their rights and how to apply them. This was either done through raising awareness by training or in the case of the Leaders of Tomorrow's Mo7aka Initiative, through interactive role play sessions.

Table 9: Raising Awareness to Human Rights Issues

Organization	Activity	Governorate
We Are for Each Other Initiative	Awareness sessions on women's and children's rights and onsexual harassment	All governorates
LoT Mo7aka Initiative	Role play sessions in which youth develop understanding of both sides of the story and tackle human rights issues such as gender differentiation and social culture 'prohibitions'	All governorates

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Ruwwad Community Empowerment Project –	Raise awareness of local community to their rights, empowering women and the community and forming partnerships	Amman
Youth for Youth Association	Women Police Project – create a positive image of women in traffic police force by building capacity of women police in women's rights, communication and debate skills, good governance and democracy	All governorates
Al Sindyan	Election Monitoring Project - raise awareness on election monitoring, youth political participation and Gender political related issues, such as empowering women politically and political representation share	All governorates

Table 10 illustrates activities that engage youth voice in political and social issues. The activities in this category were mainly associated with empowering youth to voice their opinion regarding political and social issues of their local community. This approach may include building the capacity of youth in debate skills so that they may conduct debates on various political and social topics as is the example for the Leaders of Tomorrow Diwanieh Initiative and the PBYRC Debate Club Project. It is worth emphasizing here that the difference between the formation of Debate Clubs in this sector whose objective was to empower youth to have a voice in political and social issues whereas in the life skills development sector, the objective was more to develop youth's ability to present their argument in any topic and did not necessarily focus on enhancing civic engagement and participation. Ruwwad's Daradashat Program aims at building the capacity of youth to develop their critical thinking of civic engagement topics and to engage their voice on these topics in a constructive manner. The Abeesh Youth Salt Cooperative's Ziyara Initiative and the Youth for Youth's Youth and Policy Makers Initiative aim at establishing dialogue between youth and decision makers so that youth voice may be heard and contribute to influencing policy. The LoT's Fafed Initiative provides the opportunity for youth to voice their opinion on a variety of political and social issues, while the Hikaya Center for Civil Development provides this opportunity for youth in a Radio Success Station, whereas the No Honor in Crime's Archive Project provides the opportunity for youth to tell the stories of honor crime victims and voice a more

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

humane picture of these victims. Although the social and political topics differ in each of these organizations, CSOs, and informal youth groups, they all aimed at building the capacity of youth to voice their opinions through dialogue, debate, social media and through other forms of media such as a radio station.

Table 10: Engaging Youth Voice in Political and Social Issues

Organization	Activity	Governorate
LoT Fadfed Initiative	Provides opportunity for youth to voice their opinions on sensitive political, social and economic issues by writing them on white papers posted on streets	Irbid, Ajloun, Amman, Karak, Aqaba, Maan, Zarqa
LoT Diwanieh Initiatives	Free spaces in the streets to encourage open dialogue and debate on political and social issues. Youth in each governorate are trained on debate skills such as communication skills, how to present their argument with evidence and justification, research and presentation skills so that these youth can conduct their own diwanieh debates in their own governorate	All governorates
Princess Basma Youth Resource Center	Debate Club Project in which youth are trained on communication skills and how to conduct a debate so that they may debate on social, political and economic issues	Irbid, Jerash, Ajloun, Amman, Tafileh, Maan, Aqaba
Abeesh Youth Salt Cooperative –	Ziyara Initiative – establish dialogue with national decision-makers and local community so that the organization's activities are accepted by all factions of the local community	All governorates

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

<p>Ruwwad's Dardashat Program</p>	<p>Works with university students who were awarded the Scholarship Fund by meeting with them on a weekly basis to discuss civic engagement topics regarding one's self, others and the community to express their ideas with an open mind and encourage critical thinking</p>	
<p>No Honor in Crime Initiative</p>	<p>The Archive Project is the first portal of its kind in the region, chronicling stories of women murdered under the name of 'honour', and trying to write about their lives in a language different to that of the local press, that turns them into numbers and statistics published at the end of the year, or reduces their lives to gruesome killing details; Kan Law Kan is an art photographic project. The ten-part photographic series tries to imagine the women murdered in the name of 'honour' in "what if?" scenarios, their ambitions achieved and dreams fulfilled</p>	<p>Irbid, Amman</p>
<p>Hikaya Center for Civil Society Development</p>	<p>Establishing Radio Success station and training youth to voice their opinions on topics such as Islam, pluralism and civic rights</p>	<p>All governorates</p>
<p>Youth for Youth Association -</p>	<p>Youth and Decision Makers – dialogue between youth volunteers and Ministry of Political Development on the expectations of parliament candidate for youth and political development in Jordan that resulted in potential suggestions for activities and projects; brainstorming session with authority figures regarding traffic safety and accidents in which youth came up with ideas for activities and projects including rebuilding the infrastructure of</p>	<p>All governorates</p>

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

	areas where most traffic accidents happen	
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The traditional social system of Jordan, which views youth as second to adults, continues to affect youth. The categories of activities discussed above aim at challenging this tradition social system by promoting youth critical thinking and empowering youth to question local community's social norms and political systems. This assists in creating a generation of youth leaders, rather than followers and is imperative to sustainable development.

Conclusion:

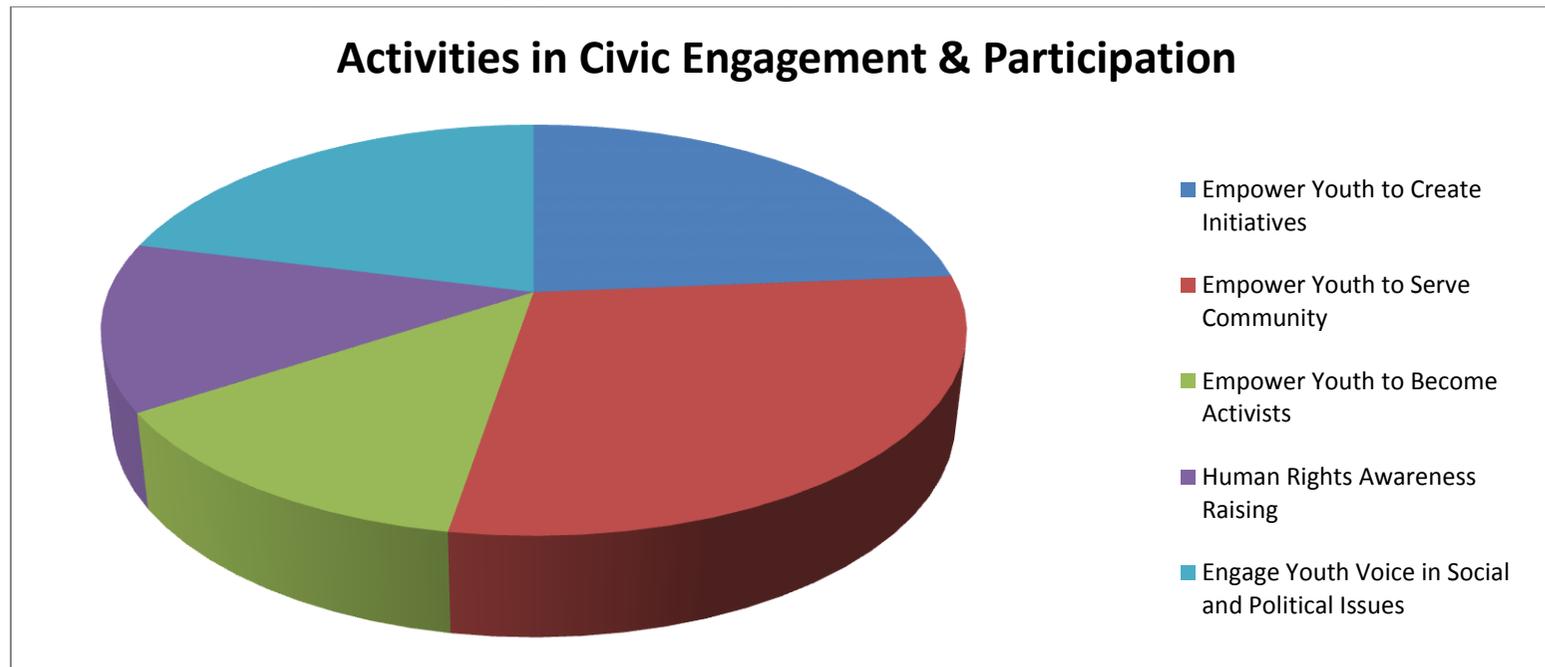
Civic engagement aims at fostering the relationship between civil society and other organizations to engage the voice of the local community in the public and state affairs. As with the Arab region states, youth between the ages of 15 – 24 comprise a large proportion of society and are the most educated faction of the community today. Therefore, youth engagement and participation in civil society makes sense in that youth possess the potential to make a considerable contribution to the development of society.

The below figure 7 illustrates the number of civic engagement and participation activities provided to youth as classified above. It is easily observed that most of the types of activities in this sector aimed at engaging youth to serve their community while the least number of activities aimed at raising their awareness to human rights and empowering them to become activists. A majority of youth view many more advantages in their Arabic and Islamic heritage than that of the Western culture. They view the cultural invasion of the West as posing a serious danger. According to the UNICEF 2002 Youth Survey, youth praise cultural practices such as respecting human relations, Islamic teachings and practices and women rights. These are deeply rooted societal beliefs which have positive and negative connotations. As discussed previously, wife beating is favored by the majority of Jordanian women under certain circumstances which may be influenced by cultural and religious beliefs. Raising the awareness of the local community to human rights, including women and children's rights, which youth may view as being largely influenced by the international community, namely the West, may challenge these deeply rooted societal views. Jordan's 2010 second MDG progress report states that MDG Goal 3, which is to promote gender equality and empower women, is achievable if certain measures are taken. This may hint at a need to provide more activities that will raise the awareness of youth to human rights, including women's and children's rights as well as that of the physically and mentally challenged.

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Jordan's law no. 33 of 1966 regulates associations by limiting engagement in any politics related activities. Although this can be viewed in a wide array of possibilities to equip youth with the tools required for them to take leadership roles themselves, these types of activities may challenge tribal and societal taboos and Jordanian legislation. The activities that empower youth to become activists included in this mapping exercise varied from empowering women to become political activists to enhancing the role of women in politics, to empowering local communities to claim their personal rights in honor crime cases as opposed to deeply rooted societal views, raising awareness to combat societal taboos such as 'wasta' or 'connections' and to empowering youth to take part in Parliament elections and supervise Municipality work. All of these forms of advocacy can be viewed as a means of promoting active participation, which qualifies their work and does not oppose law no. 33. According to the UNICEF 2002 Youth Survey, half of Jordanian youth believe they do not have any influence on changing laws and many youth express lack of trust in parliament elections* (IRI 2003). However, a survey conducted by the 4th North Forum* indicated that many youth have a clear idea about the characteristics an ideal parliament and municipal candidate should have. This may be a clear indication of the need of more activities that would empower youth to become activists.

Figure 7: Number of Types of Civic Engagement and Participation Activities



Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Geographical Distribution Conclusion:

To meet the objectives of this mapping exercise, the activities classified in the above sectors, in addition to activities in the voluntary work, charity work and arts and culture sectors were analyzed according to their geographical location. It is once again essential to emphasize that the activities mapped were a random sample and do not include all activities that are being executed in the governorates. However, they are a starting point or an indication of the types of activities that are offered to youth in the governorates.

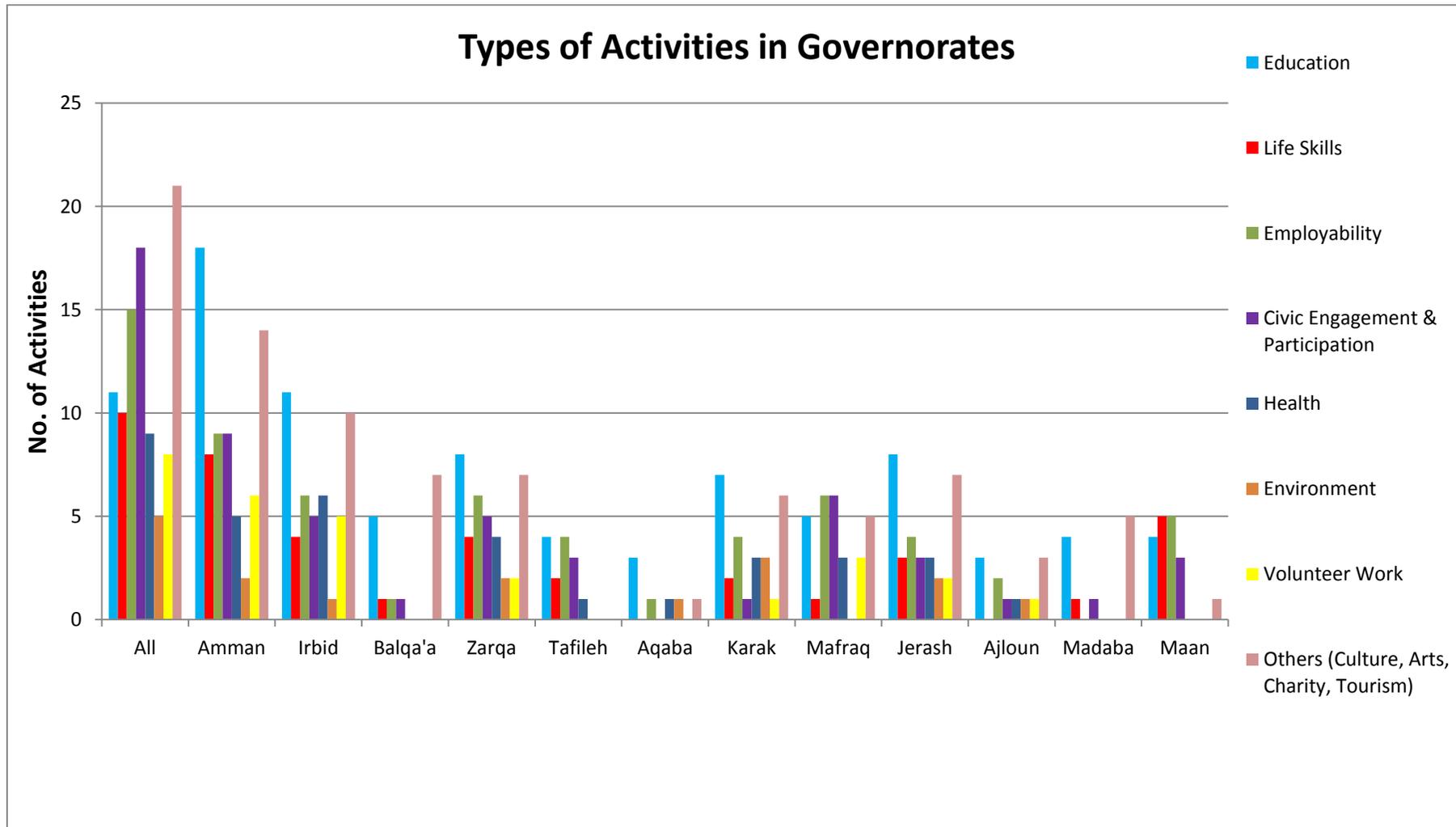
The below figure 8 is a bar chart that illustrates the number of activities in each of the sectors by each governorate. The column referred to as all governorates refers to non-profit companies, CSOs, RNGOs and informal youth groups that implemented their activities in all 12 governorates. We can observe from figure 8 that the largest number of activities was run in the major cities including Amman and Irbid, with Zarqa lagging behind. The results indicate that the largest proportion of activities occur in the largest Jordanian cities which harbor the largest populations.

Education is the number one service priority and healthcare is the second service priority of the Jordanian government. Education, both formal and non-formal, including activities that develop life skills and employability skills were the most frequent types of activities that were executed in every governorate as illustrated in figure 8. However, it can be observed that there were no life skills development activities specific to Ajloun and Aqaba and no employability skills development specific to the Madaba governorate.

Environmental activities as illustrated in Figure 8 accounted for the least number of activities in almost all governorates, especially in Amman, Irbid, Zarqa and Ajloun. The Balqaa', Tafileh, Mafraq, Maan, and Madaba governorates did not possess activities in the environmental sector and although this mapping exercise did not include all activities in each of these governorates, this may be an indication of the lack of these activities. According to a 2014 Municipal Needs Assessment conducted by UNDP in the Northern Municipalities of Irbid and Mafraq, the number one priority is waste management and the second priority is inadequate water services with sanitation as a fourth priority due to the lack of adequate and efficient sewage systems, especially with the impact of the Syrian refugee influx on these two governorates. Although these challenges mostly require governmental assistance, organizations, CSOs and informal youth groups could assist in overcoming these challenges through various activities.

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

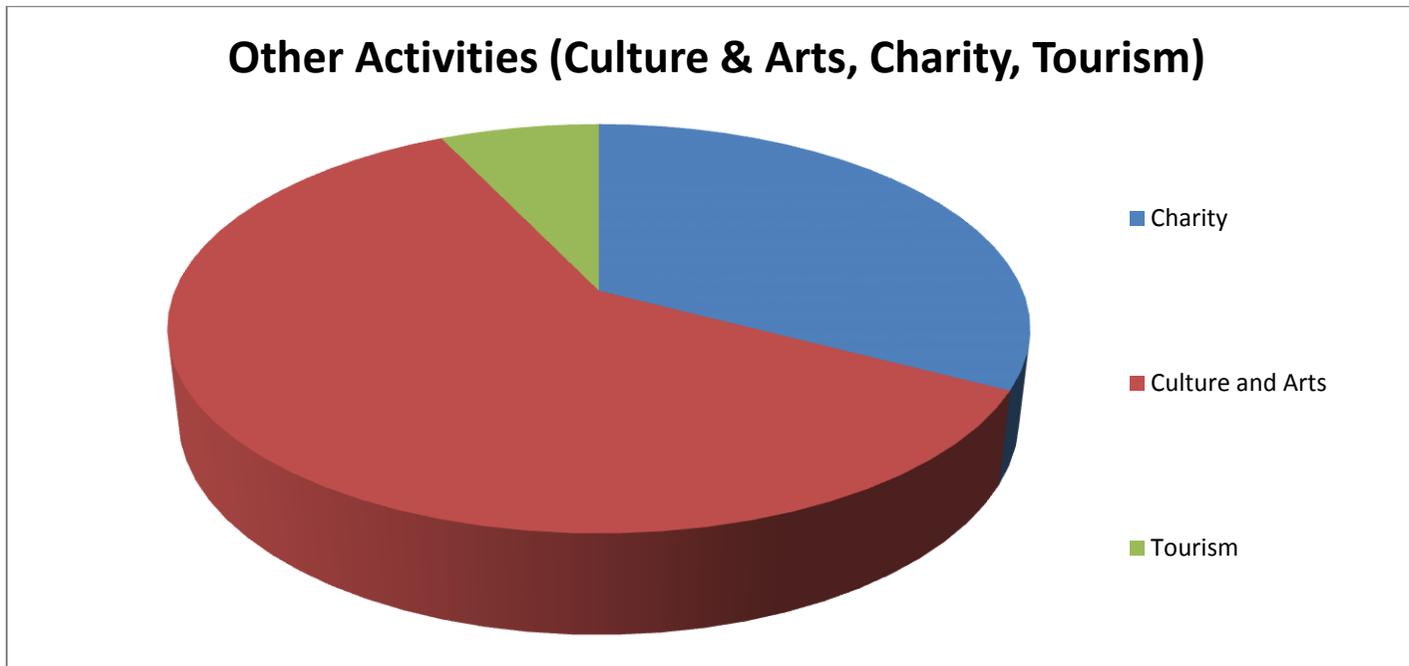
Figure 8: Number of Activities in All Sectors According to Governorate



Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

It is easily observed in Figure 8 that the largest number of activities of organizations that executed their activities in all governorates was in the charity work and the arts and culture sector. Charity activities mostly included providing assistance in the form of food, clothing, toys and books for children and some housing assistance. Culture and arts activities included a wide array of events, workshops, conferences, and festivals in poetry, music, photography, film and theater, media: including journalism and social media, handicrafts and research. This accounted for the largest number of activities classified in the 'Others' sector as illustrated in figure 9 below. It is important to note here that this is a very broad and important sector and focus group participants from all governorates recalled that charity work activities were the activities they were provided with as youth in their local community. These types of activities were by far the most widespread and the types of activities that youth were made well aware of in their governorates.

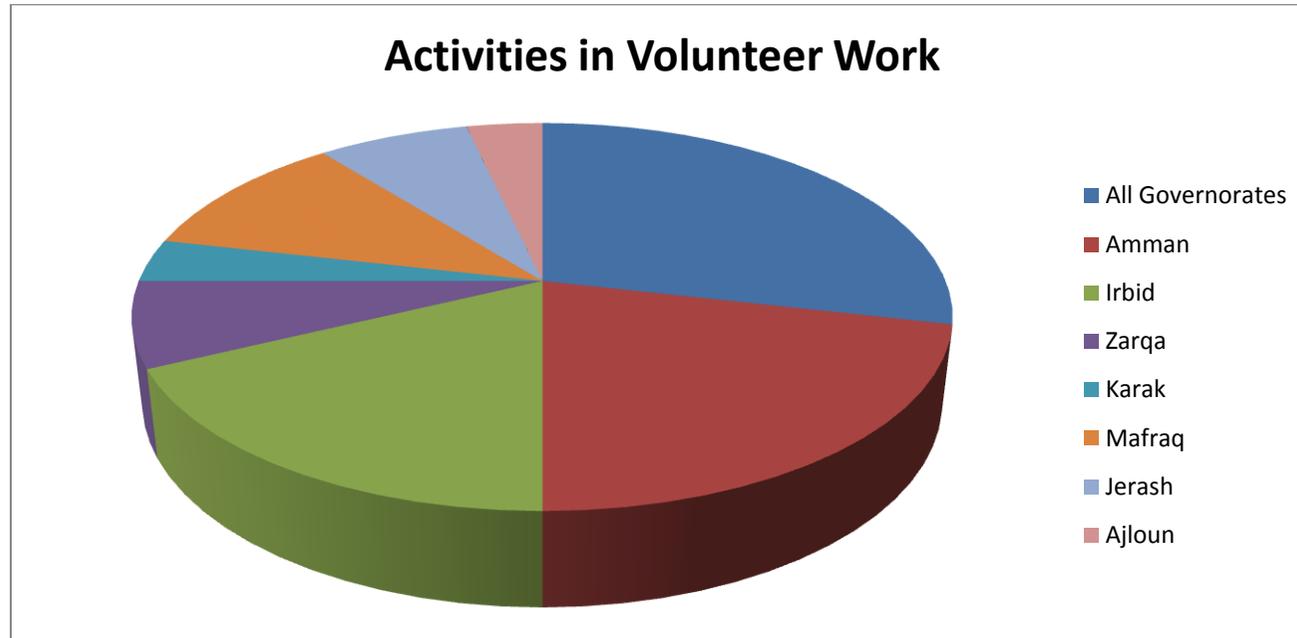
Figure 9: Number of Activities Provided for Youth in the Volunteer, Charity and Arts and Culture Sectors



Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

There were volunteer opportunities mapped in several of the governorates but no available opportunities specific to Balqa'a, Tafileh, Aqaba, Madaba and Maan. The volunteer work activities that were reported by organizations and recorded were mostly in the form of raising awareness of youth to the importance of volunteer work and promoting the volunteer spirit. Other volunteer work activities were less frequent and included helping out with charity work. It is essential to point out here that this sector is very broad since all CSOs and informal youth groups depended on volunteers to implement their activities but did not necessarily point this out as an activity they were offering youth with when they were asked about the activities they implemented. Figure 10 below illustrates the number of volunteer work activities in each of the governorates. In addition to the organizations that provide volunteer work opportunities to youth from all 12 governorates, Amman and Irbid were found to have the most volunteer work opportunities. Focus group participants stated that this was a challenge that they faced as transportation costs to the major cities were expensive and time consuming.

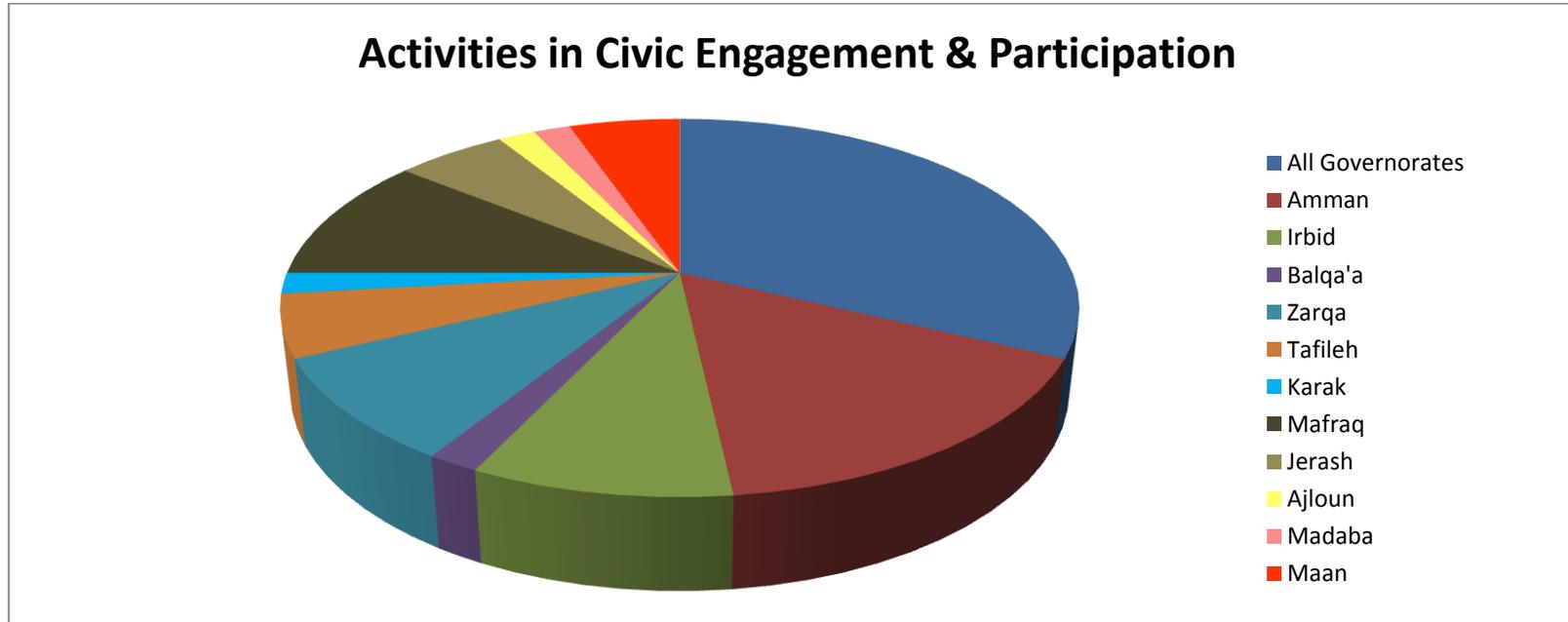
Figure 10: Number of Volunteer Work Activities Provided for Youth According to Governorate



Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Figure 11 illustrates the number of civic engagement and participation activities in each of the governorates. Organizations that conduct these activities usually attempt to execute these activities in all governorates. The figure also illustrates that the largest number of civic engagement activities are executed in the bigger cities including Amman, Irbid and Zarqa, as well as in Mafraq.

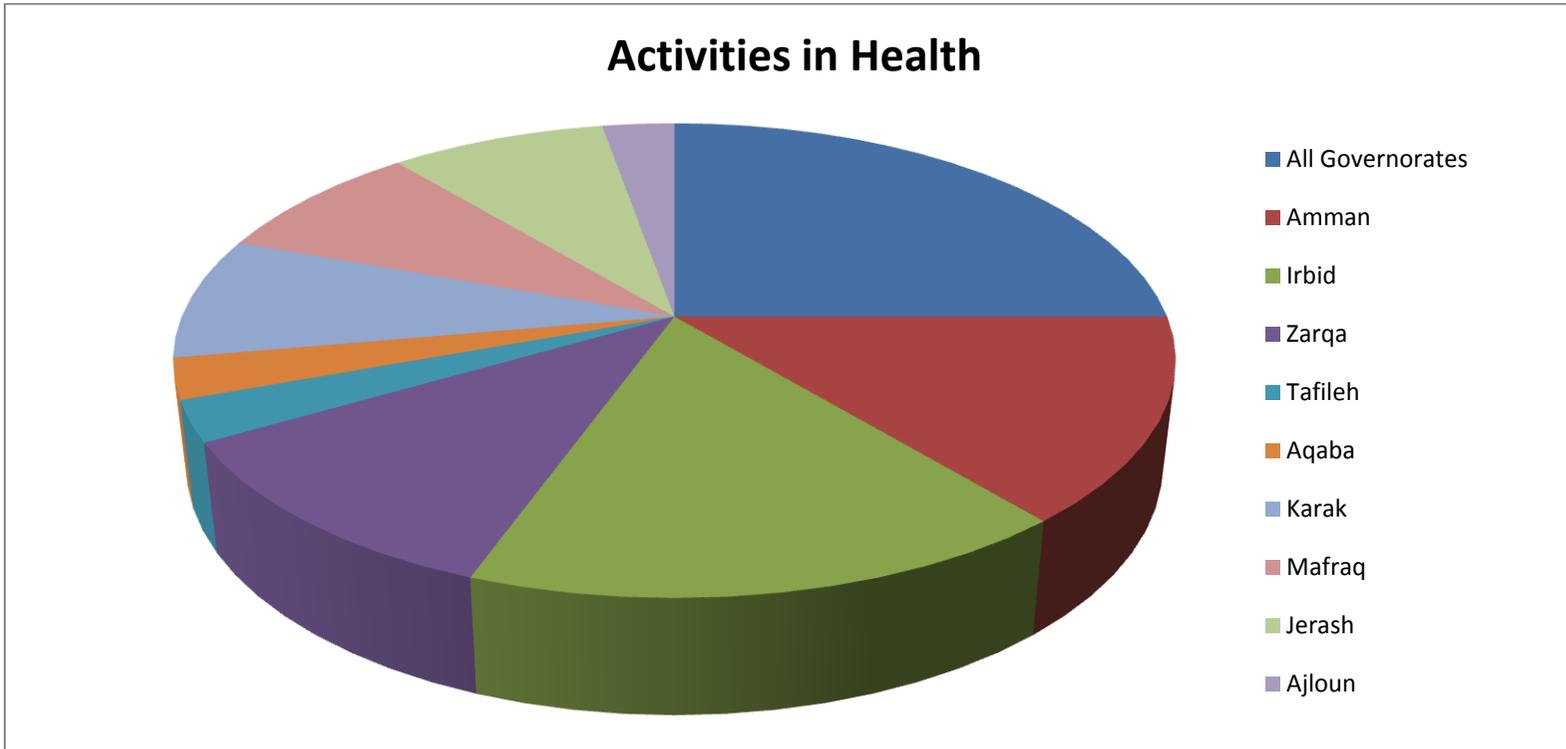
Figure 11: Number of Civic Engagement and Participation Activities Provided for Youth According to Governorate



We have mentioned that the second service priority of the Jordanian government is healthcare. Figure 12 below illustrates the number of health activities that are implemented in each of the governorates. Upon this mapping's results, there were no health activities specific to Maan, Madaba and the Balqaa governorates and once again the largest number of health activities was in Irbid and then Amman and Balqaa.

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Figure 12: Number of Health Activities Available to Youth According to Governorate



It is clear that the largest number of activities from all sectors occur in the most populated cities in Jordan including Amman, Zarqa and Irbid. The smaller and less densely populated governorates such as Balqaa, Ajloun, Aqaba and Madaba executed fewer activities for youth.

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Recommendations:

1. Incorporate a 'practical component' into awareness raising activities and support youth with an appropriate monitoring mechanism following awareness raising activities to ensure that they can apply what organizations have aimed to build their capacity in. A large proportion of activities in several of the sectors including life skills development, environment, and some health activities such as those mentioned under promoting healthy lifestyles require a 'practical component' that will empower youth to apply their acquired skills in real life experiences. Following the awareness raising sessions, a monitoring mechanism such as arrangement of periodic meetings with youth or among youth themselves or through social media, where youth can discuss application of skills and obstacles they face.
2. Organizations, especially CSOs, should clearly document the volunteer opportunities they provide for youth and create a database of all the volunteers, names, level of commitment and feedback of the type of volunteer work they underwent. This can be shared with other CSOs and it will assist in promoting the various voluntary opportunities to a wider audience of youth.
3. Target governorates with the least number of activities.

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Level of Participation

When mapping activities available to youth, it is essential to evaluate the level of youth participation in the creation of these activities rather than just involving them in the 'manual' phase of projects. This emphasizes the importance of youth participation in the designing of activities offered to them rather than just being the recipients. Hart's Ladder of Participation was used to determine the level of youth participation, who defines participation as a fundamental right of citizenship. The word participation in this section of the report refers to providing youth (10 to 24 years of age) with a role in the decision-making process when designing and implementing activities and projects that serve the youth of the community in different sectors.

According to the Youth Survey conducted in Jordan by UNICEF in 2002, more than 75% of youth felt they needed to take a more active role in decision-making in local communities. This was particularly emphasized by youth in the 20 – 24 age group who were more educated and had attended capacity building sessions. In the focus groups conducted, the majority of university students in Irbid, Mafraq, Amman, Zarqa, Jerash and Ajloun stated that youth had a very limited or no role in designing but may have some role in the implementation of activities. Focus group participants also stated that youth initiatives were designed and implemented by youth and the assistance provided by adults was to locate a funding source. Focus group participants of Karak and Tafileh who were active in the Princess Basma Development Center for Development stated that the Center Manager either approves or refuses activities designed by the Youth Committee, while other participants stated that the Center Manager doesn't refuse activities but sometimes amends them to what is suitable from his experience. This gives us a rough guideline in which we found that many of the organization leaders may involve youth at a certain step of the ladder but are not willing to give youth a higher role in the decision-making process because their participation is undervalued due to their lack of skills to meet the needs of these roles.

Many of the organizations practiced youth participation at various steps of Hart's Ladder. For the sake of this report, we took into consideration an example of the highest step of youth participation an organization was practicing.

Roger Hart's Ladder of Young People's Participation



Rung 8: Young people & adults share decision-making

Rung 7: Young people lead & initiate action

Rung 6: Adult-initiated, shared decisions with young people

Rung 5: Young people consulted and informed

Rung 4: Young people assigned and informed

Rung 3: Young people tokenized*

Rung 2: Young people are decoration*

Rung 1: Young people are manipulated*

**Note Hart explains the last three rungs are non-participation*

Adapted from Hart, R. (1992) Children's Participation from Tokenism to Citizenship Florence: UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre
Created by The Freechild Project - <http://freechild.org>

Mapping of Youth Activities in Jordan

Step 8: Youth Initiated; shared Decisions with Adults

This step of the ladder describes youth who initiate an idea, by setting up the idea and invite adults to share the decision-making with them.

Few organizations and initiatives that were mapped exercised this level of participation and in the majority of these examples, youth underwent a capacity building program provided to them by adults which would empower them to begin and run their own initiative. Luthan Youth Achievement Center's (LOYAC) Capacity Building program provides an opportunity for youth to initiate their own ideas and provides them with the technical and financial support to get their idea running. Similarly, the Jordan Education Initiative's (JEI) Internship Program includes a capacity building program for youth to provide technical support to government schools. As a result of their work in the field, youth initiated the Bdoun Haky Bas Itfaraj Initiative which they design and implement in schools with support from JEI. We are Having Dessert ('Am Nit hala) is another example of an unregistered Initiative founded by youth who received capacity building on management skills and now involve adults in the designing and implementation of activities.

The King Hussein Foundation's National Council for Culture and Arts, (NCCA) is a good example of an organization that supports youth ideas. A national initiative derived from the annual Arab Youth Forum, chooses one initiative from each governorate in which a team of youth initiate an idea of a creative project to serve their local community. The selected youth teams are trained on project management, communication skills, and how to execute their initiatives in a creative way and PAC then supports youth in implementing the initiative they designed both financially and technically.

Other organizations and initiatives are youth initiated and run but involve adults in the designing and/or implementation of their activities. Bread for Education Initiative (Al Khubiz men Ajel Al Taleem) is an example of an unregistered initiative that was initiated by youth and is now directed by youth with the assistance of adults in the implementation of activities and in providing financial support and facilitation of partnerships.

Hikaya Center for Civil Society Development is a youth initiated non-profit company that is led by the president of the Jordan Youth Parliament. 90% of staff and volunteers working in Hikaya Center are youth and design and implement projects with the assistance of experienced adults.

Step 7: Youth initiated and directed

Youth initiate their own projects and direct them on this step of the ladder.

Few organizations fell into this step of the ladder of which a prominent example would be the Be Positive Initiative. This Youth Initiative is run in underprivileged government schools in the Ma'an governorate by one youth who did not receive any previous capacity building and her work is based on individual effort. She plans, coordinates with government authority, and implements her activities on her own.

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The Mazalaty Initiative, Shabab Share, Youth for Social Democracy, and the Abilla Initiative are examples of initiatives run mostly by university students. Most of the youth who initiated these initiatives were either active volunteers in the community or had attended a series of capacity building programs to come up with their own Initiatives.

Massar and Book loop are examples of Youth Initiatives that may have either been initiated by a youth majority together with adults and are now directed and run by youth or were initiated by youth but involve adults as volunteers in the implementation of activities.

Step 6: Adult initiated; shared decisions with young people

This step of the ladder occurs when adults initiate the idea but involve youth in the decision-making process.

A large number of the organizations and initiatives that were a part of this Mapping Exercise fell under this step of the ladder. Merciful Father, Basmat Volunteers, Youth for Youth Association, Al Safawi Women's Charitable Society, We Are for Each Other (Ehna la Ba'ad), and Ta'aleela are examples of initiatives that were adult initiated but involve youth in the designing and implementation of projects and assign them a clear decision-making role. For example, Ta'leela involves youth in identifying and recruiting volunteers for their activities in Amman and Ghor and a youth is responsible for recruiting and establishing the leadership team in Salt. Tashbeek Center for Sustainable Development and Media Training includes youth members in its management team. Each member of the management team leads a group of school and university students who suggest an idea of an activity to their leader and all ideas from all teams are presented to the management team who vote to select a number of ideas and youth then play the role of designing and implementing their ideas with the assistance of their leader. The Children's Museum and Friends of Archeology organizations include youth in the management team that have a decision-making role in designing and implementation of programs. The Near East Foundation has civil society organization partners, which consist of 25 – 50% youth and they take part in the designing and implementation of activities together. AIESEC's international cultural exchange program is set up by adults but completely run and implemented by youth.

A number of organizations that practice this level of participation were initiated by a team of both adults and youth and activities are designed and implemented by both youth and adults. This included civil society organizations and unregistered initiatives. The Dead Sea Society for Health Development's founders and management team consists largely of youth who have a voice in decision-making and involve youth volunteers in project implementation. The Salt Cinema and Theater, Hemah Initiative, the Wheat Grain Project, Al Sindyan, Enhancing Leadership and Success Skills, No Honour in Crime, Taghmees, For You My Country (Li ajlak ya Baladi), the Building and Development of Madinat Kufranja Initiative and Mujadeedoun, a regional initiative inspired by Amru Khaled, are all examples of CSOs and initiatives that were founded and are run by a group of adults together with youth. Al Sindyan was initiated by adults and youth and the Management Committee of this civil society includes a group of university students who have their own youth initiative called Youth for

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Social Democracy that work together with adults to plan and design activities. Bel Hiwar Nartaqi was supported and funded by the International Youth Foundation within the 'Serve My Country' project, run in previous years, and the founders of the Initiative realized the importance of the Initiative and decided to continue working on the idea even after IYF's funding was finished. The Jordan Society for Protecting Humans and Earth which was initiated by a team of youth and adults who execute their activities by creating Youth Local Community Committees that follow-up on different needs of their area as youth representatives before the local community authority.

Some organizations involve youth in the designing and implementation of activities within a project. The Arab Women's Media Center engages youth by building their capacity in film making and then giving them the opportunity to produce their own films in the topic of their choice. Save the Children provides the opportunity for youth to suggest an idea for activities that meet the project objective and to design and implement these activities such as designing an activity for girls' right to education from home. Arab Group for the Protection of Nature holds a brainstorming session with youth to design ideas for activities under main projects that are set up by adults. Adults assist youth with funding and legal issues and youth committees play a role in the implementation of their activities.

Step 5: Youth consulted and informed

In this level of the ladder, adults initiate and run the project but youth's opinions are given weight in decision-making and they understand their part and role in the process.

Some of the organizations in this mapping exercise fit into this level of participation. The fact that organizations did not possess a mechanism to indicate how youth opinion affected decision-making dropped the level of youth participation to level 4; youth assigned but informed. Organizations that consult youth on activities in a brainstorming session or allow youth to vote on type of activities they want, give them feedback on how their opinions change the activities and involve them in the implementation process include the Shams Al Kheir Initiative and Ruwwad Al Najah for Voluntary Work.

Organizations that consult youth committees on activity design and implementation and take their voice into consideration when planning and implementing include the Wellness House, Care International and Al Numeira Environmental Society. Bayt El Afyeh or the Wellness House consults youth volunteers who give their ideas for activities to adults. Committees then design the activities and this is presented to the Management team who amend the activities' design and implementation according to the civil society's objectives and vision. Similarly, Care International holds brainstorming sessions with youth to get their input about their needs. Youth also comprise the Syrian and Iraqi Refugee Committee which are responsible for identifying local community needs and give their input to be incorporated into the planning and implementation process. Al Numeira Environmental Society's Projects Committee meets with youth committees in schools to allow them to voice their ideas and then plan and implement the activities according to the feedback from these brainstorming

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sessions. The Royal Society for the Conservation of Marine Biology delegates a research company to research the needs of the local community and a committee made up of a youth representation gives input into the design of activities.

Some organizations include youth in their management team to give input when designing activities. Jordan's Anti-Drug Society, Our Step Civil Society and the Jordanian Society for the Care of Orphans and Widows are examples. The Jordan's Anti-Drug Society assigns one management post to a youth, who receives feedback from youth in the field and gives this feedback to adults during the designing and implementation phase.

The most prominent example of organizations that practice this level of youth participation is the Zaatari Camp organizations. These organizations conduct brainstorming sessions or focus groups with youth to identify their needs and design activities accordingly. Youth are then informed how their needs were matched with a certain activity and are consulted whether the activity will meet their need. Youth volunteers take part in the implementation of these activities.

Step 4: Youth assigned but informed

This step of the ladder states that youth have an opinion and adults respect their opinion. Adults play the decision-making role in the planning of the project. A large number of organizations that involve youth in the implementation process, mostly as volunteers, and respect youth opinion during the designing phase fit into this step of the ladder. Organizations that respect youth feedback from their experience in the field include the Madrasati Initiative, Zikra Initiative, Kitabi Kitabak Initiative, Ballad Theater, Allemny Initiative, the East West Center, Raneen Initiative and the Society for the Rehabilitation and Development of Rural Women which assigns youth a role in the implementation of projects as Coordinators and accordingly respect the voice they give for activity ideas during meetings with adults to design projects.

In some organizations, youth are provided with an opportunity to voice their opinions and ideas for projects and adults respect youth views. However, there is an unclear mechanism of how much these views are taken into consideration in the designing phase. The Amal Society for the Care of the Disabled, the Debate Foundation, Jerash Literary Forum, Al Musawa Center for Local Community Development, and Al Mafraq Cultural Forum are all examples of these organizations. The All Jordan Youth Commission's Center Coordinators in each governorate are adults and conduct a brainstorming session with the local community, of which a portion is youth, and take the views from these brainstorming sessions into consideration when designing projects. Youth volunteers take part in the implementation process.

The Jordan Human Development Society is run by adults who meet with youth of the local community and discuss their needs and accordingly, plan for activities. Funding from international organizations determines how much adults can incorporate the views of youth into the designing of projects but youth volunteers take part in the implementation process. The Orthodox Initiative engages youth and adults of the local community in a brainstorming session to

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identify their needs. These views are taken into consideration in the planning process but the fact that youth lack leadership skills to make decisions restricts their role to the execution of activities. Similarly, Al Mashreq for Research and Studies conduct focus groups with the local community that consists of youth representation, to identify community needs and this is taken into consideration in designing projects.

Organizations that distribute questionnaires or surveys to youth or to a youth representation so that their opinion could be taken into consideration when designing for projects include the Youth Network for Development and Innovation and the Zaha Cultural Center. The Zaha Cultural Center also takes into consideration lessons learned in the field from the implementation team of which there is a small youth representation and results from a youth survey when planning for their activities. However, there is no mechanism to indicate to what level these questionnaires or surveys are taken into consideration during the planning phase.

Al Aman Fund for the Future of Orphans and Al Jude for Scientific Care provides youth with the opportunity to suggest activities and assign youth a role in the implementation of the activities although this may be directed by adults. Youth voice is heard and respected at Al Jude for Scientific Care for issues such as what they want to call a learning corner or lessons learned from the field.

Step 3: Tokenism

This step is classified as 'non-participation' of youth where youth have a very limited role in the decision-making process and are directed by adults.

Jordan's traditional social structure continues to undermine youth's potential to make a positive contribution to the decision-making process because of their lack of experience which may be one of the reasons why such a large number of organizations were classified into this step of the ladder. There are examples of many organizations and CBOs that are adult initiated and led and youth may be involved in the implementation process as volunteers but have very little or no role in the decision-making process. For example, the youth voice of the SOS Village is limited to what recreational activities students may want to suggest.

Some women's charitable organizations and civil societies limited youth role in decision-making to implementation of activities, which was adult directed. The Mastaba Women's Charitable Society attributed youth's limited role in decision-making to the local community culture, which would not allow for youth to possess such roles. The Mastaba Women's Charitable Society possesses a limited youth voice of one youth in their planning committee who does voice her opinion during the planning of activities but there is no mechanism to indicate that this one voice has any influence. Al Ghor Al Safi Women's Charitable Society for Social Development distributes a survey to the local community, of which a portion is made of youth, and takes the opinions from the survey into consideration when designing and implementing projects. However, adults design and implement projects for this society.

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The Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation contracts a research team to identify needs and a five year strategy is compiled with the approval of their Board. Each project unit will then design and implement projects according to this strategy and this is done by adults. Under my Olive Tree programs are designed and implemented by adults but the Volunteer Program accepts suggestions made by volunteers. However, no mechanism is available to ensure that youth suggestions are taken into consideration and have any influence. The unique aspect of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) is that it allows youth to take part in the evaluation of the activities and its impact by measuring their progress. However, youth role is limited to implementation of activities as volunteers.

There is only one informal group that fits into this step of the ladder. Youth role is limited to making suggestions as to who beneficiaries of the program should be.

Conclusion:

Youth are already making contributions to achieving the Millenium Development Goals (MDGs) and their work should be acknowledged and encouraged. Jordan is making more effort to involve youth as key participants in the decision-making process which is unique when compared to many other Arab countries as it challenges in a way the traditional hierarchy that links age with decision-making.

The majority of organizations included in this Mapping Exercise fell in level 6, 4 and 3 of Hart's Ladder of Participation as observed in figure 13 below. It can be easily observed that organizations are moving towards the participation of youth in more decision-making roles at various levels of the ladder since the majority of organizations fell between level 4 and level 8 of the ladder, which was classified as the degrees of participation by Hart. Organizations that fell in level 6 of the ladder worked on empowering youth to possess equal roles with adults whereas, organizations that fell in level 4 of the ladder aimed at enhancing the involvement of youth in the decision-making process. The importance of involving youth in these roles is emphasized by the Royal Family and is reflected in governmental policies.

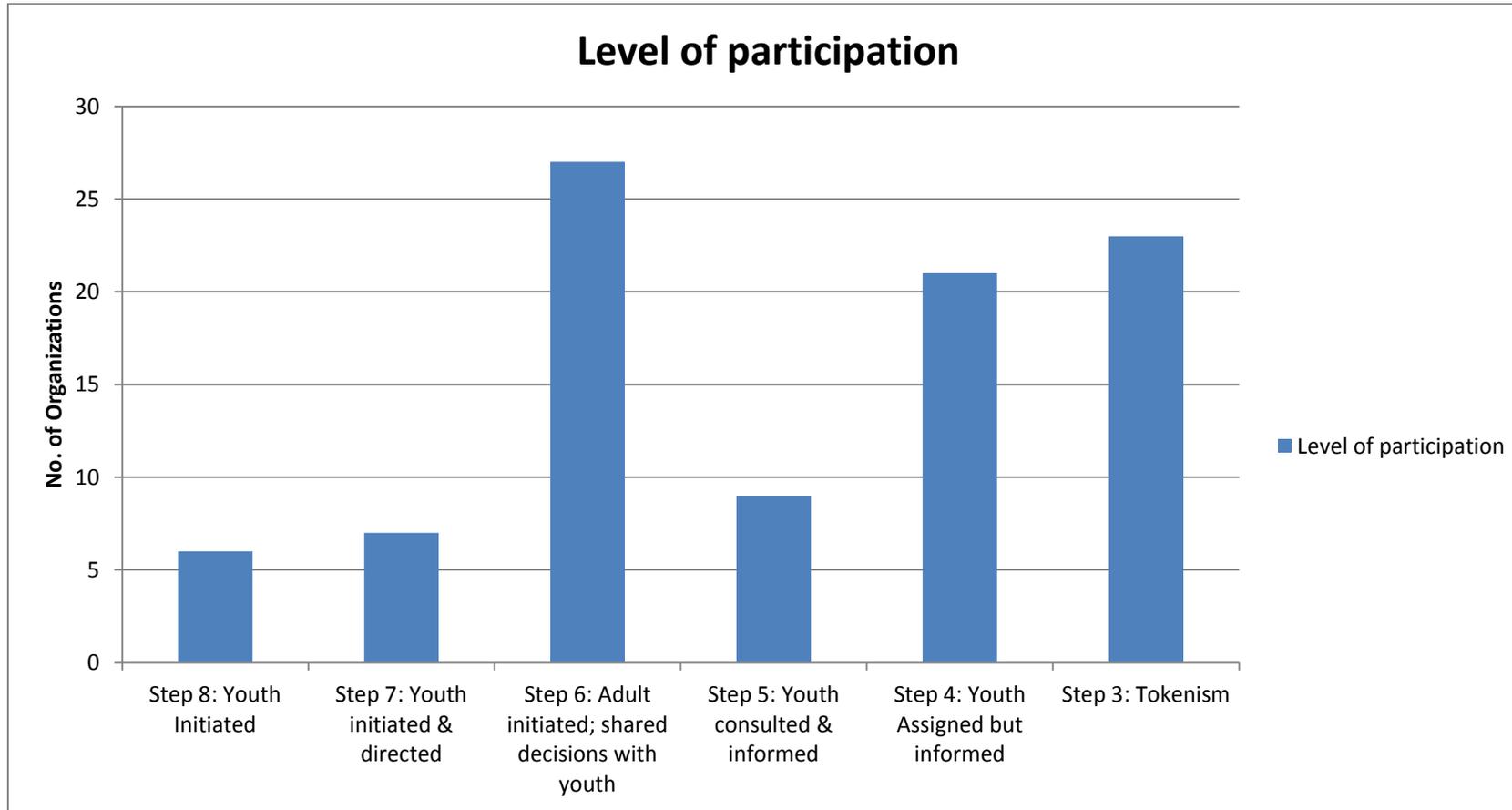
There were also a number of organizations that fell in level 3 of the ladder, which is classified as non-participation of youth by Hart. Organizations that fell in this level of the ladder did not provide an opportunity for youth to participate in decision-making and hence, did not adequately contribute to the development of youth skills. This may be attributed to the social and political structure of society. Socially, youth are perceived to be inferior to adults and that they may lack the skills and experience to take part in decision-making roles. The political sphere is very much influenced by the tribal hierarchy and family connections of society, which means that many of the election candidates may take on leadership roles and come into power due to their connections in society. This view extends to youth, resulting in low participation of youth, because of the lack of belief that youth can make an impact on larger structures or on the political sphere.

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The majority of focus group participants in all governorates stated that they were not considered for decision-making roles. They felt that the local community and organizations and CBOs that work with youth focused on providing them with opportunities to take part in activities but not in the designing and implementation of these activities. Many of the smaller organizations and CBOs, especially those in rural areas, had little awareness of the importance of youth participation in the designing and implementation of activities or did not provide youth with the opportunity to take up such roles because the local community did not 'view youth as appropriate candidates to handle these roles'. Many small organizations did not demonstrate an understanding of the ladder of participation and viewed themselves as providing youth with an opportunity to take part in the decision-making process when in fact they were practicing a lower step of the ladder of youth participation.

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Figure 13: Level of Youth Participation Practiced by Organizations



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Recommendations:

- ❖ Raise awareness of organizations to Hart's ladder of participation and to the importance of youth involvement and participation in decision-making roles. Non-profit companies, CSOs and informal youth groups should be made aware of various levels of youth participation in the designing and implementation of activities and the importance of this as it will clarify a unified vision in which the highest level of youth participation would be the initiation of activities by youth with the assistance of adult experience and the lowest levels may be involving youth in the implementation but not giving them a voice to design and implement activities. Organizations can develop an understanding of youth participation at various levels, which may alter mindsets about and the understanding of the importance of youth participation in decision-making and clarify the objective so they are aware of what they are aiming for. In addition to training, the following strategies can be recommended:
 - 'Twinning' of organizations who practice a higher level of youth participation in decision-making with smaller organizations and small rural CBOs who may require a more 'practical' understanding of what high levels of youth participation may look like.
 - Document the method used by organizations to design and execute an activity so that it may be revised and developed. A clear account of the mechanism used to engage youth in the designing and implementation of activities would help to eliminate difficulties that employees of some organizations may find in clarifying the mechanism they used to ensure that youth voice was in fact one of the main components of the decision-making process. Some organizations required us to speak to different employees who gave different accounts of the level of youth participation in the designing and implementation of activities as that information may be found with only one person. Various mechanisms of incorporating youth voice should be recorded so that organizations can relay this and be aware of and can compare different mechanisms they can use when designing and executing different activities.

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In addition to mapping activities of the organizations, this research looked into several other aspects. When organizations clarified their activities, this created an opportunity for them to discuss the opportunities and challenges they face to plan and execute their activities.

Although Jordan has a long history of civil societies, rapid development of non-profit organizations and civil societies can be traced back to the 1990s as a response to economic recession and political liberalization. According to Article 16 of the Constitution, Jordanians have the right to hold meetings and establish societies and political parties within the limits of the law. However according to Law no. 13 of 1966, Foundations and Societies may not engage in religious, sectarian or political activities. The Ministry of Social Development may monitor meetings of civil societies and organizations and may dissolve the Board or deny permission for assembly. Organization and civil societies may apply for international funding through project proposals, which creates competition among these CSOs and organizations. All organizations and CSOs must receive approval from the Cabinet of Ministers when receiving funding from a non-Jordanian source.

Organizations and CSOs do not possess a full scope of the youth related activities that are run in local communities by other organizations and CSOs. This may lead to repetition of activities or to the lack of activities in certain local communities. As a consequence of repeated activities, organizations may be reaching out to the same audience of youth. The traditional ways and taboos of society may define male and female roles restricting participation of females in certain activities and fields, as well as in the locations of these activities.

This coming section will highlight the main findings according to non-profit companies', CSOs', RNGOs' and informal youth groups' responses regarding funding, female to male participation ratio, methods of outreach to youth and the general challenges they face when designing and implementing activities for youth.

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Female participation:

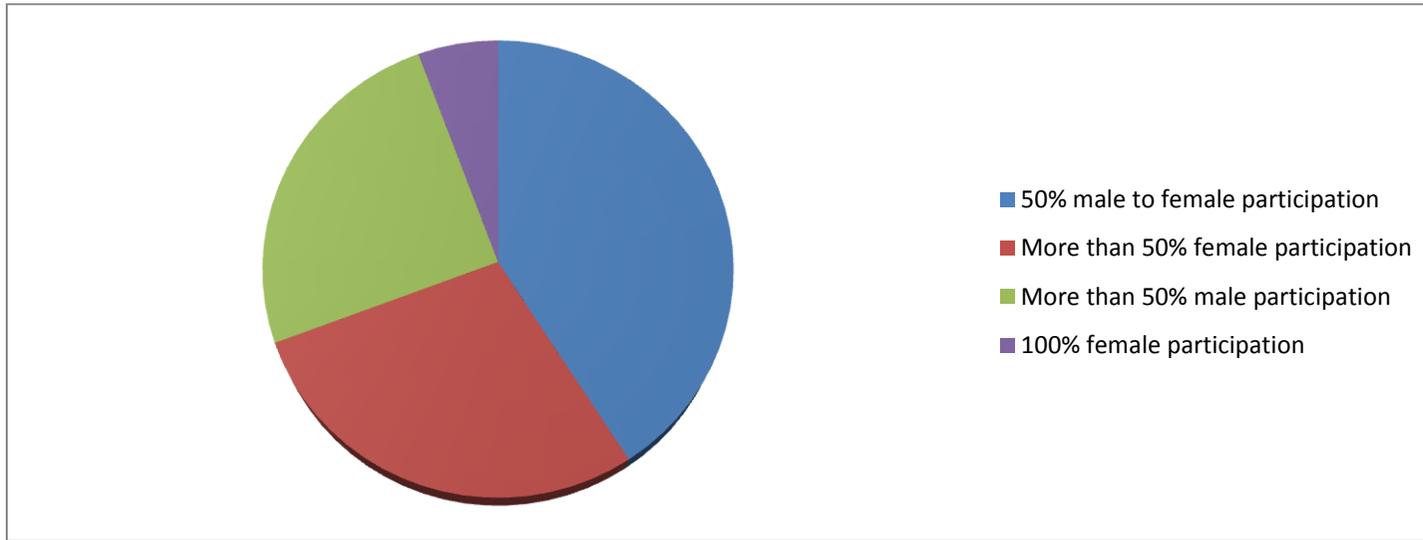
One of the dimensions of this mapping exercise was to research the participation of females in the youth activities offered by organizations and informal youth groups. Most of the organizations did not possess the documentation to give the research team an exact and accurate percentage or ratio of female to male participation. However, this analysis was made based on estimated values provided by the organizations.

The figure 14 below illustrates female to male participation in the youth activities offered by the organizations. It is easily observed that 75% of the organizations that participated in this mapping exercise state that female participation is 50% or more. 36 organizations responded that there was an equal male to female participation in their activities. The five organizations that stated female participation was 100% were all women's civil societies and all aimed at creating IGPs or provided vocational training to improve work conditions for women in Mafraq, Maan and Jerash in more remote areas of the Kingdom where these women would most likely not find other means of livelihood. 25 organizations stated that female participation was more than 50%. This included participation in organizations' activities from all sectors and from all the various governorates.

22 organizations asked about their female to male participation in activities responded that male participation was more than 50%. This could be due to a variety of reasons, including cultural taboos that limit the participation of females due to the lack of interest of females themselves, lack of parent approval, a conservative community to the participation of females or to the nature of the activities. Focus group participants were questioned about whether they viewed their governorate as a female or male 'character' and about the participation of females in youth activities made available to them in their local community. The majority of participants from all governorates except for Irbid viewed their governorate as male. The fact that focus group participants viewed Irbid as female could be attributed to Irbid being named the 'Bride of the South' reflecting how cultural and traditional views affect the portrayal of governorates by youth. Focus group participants of Mafraq emphasized that activities made available to female youth were particularly limited due to the local community's views on female participation.

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Figure 14: Male to Female Participation Ratios



The Sketshow Initiative was an example of an initiative in which the participation of females was 10% because of cultural taboos around the participation of females in the fine art and theater sector. This involved both the lack of interest from females and the lack of approval from their parents. Similarly, Al Ballad Theater, which conducts activities in the same field, stated that male participation was higher. Other organizations such as the Youth Network for Innovation and Development and the United Religions Initiative, whose activities include cultural exchange programs to encourage representation of Jordan youth in the global network, pointed out that this usually receives more male than female participation. The Youth Spirit Center, which aims at developing leadership skills through a cultural exchange program, pointed out that it was a challenge finding females to take part in these programs to ensure that they meet their policy of an equal female to male participation ratio. They attributed this challenge to the lack of approval of parents of females traveling abroad, especially at such a young age.

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The Building and Construction of Kufranja Initiative was another example of an initiative in which the majority of participants were males because of the nature of the social work undertaken by this initiative to help the members of the local community including harsh physical work that the local community did not view females could take part in such as helping those in need during a snow storm and a cleaning campaign in an Islamic cemetery. The Queen Rania Center for Entrepreneurship also estimated that female participation was at 35% which may be an indication of female interest in entrepreneurship due to a number of factors including cultural taboos of a female's role in society. The Taleelah Initiative, which conducts small group meetings to discuss various cultural, political and local community issues and their proposed solutions, witnesses a small ratio of female participation. The highest female participation in the Taleelah Initiative was from Ghor Al Mazraa of the Karak governorate at 30%, 20% female participation from Amman and 10% female participation from Salt. It is however, worth noting that the majority of volunteers that coordinate activities from the Taleelah Initiative are females. An example of a similar organization that conducts similar activities and seeks more female participation and may attribute this low female participation to the conservative view of the local community to the participation of females is the Mafraq Cultural Forum, which conducts discussion sessions on local community issues such as drug abuse and issues of the political and national agenda.

Other organizations such as the SOS Village and the Jasmine Society for Children with Down's syndrome possessed a higher participation of males to females but this could not be attributed to any particular reason. The SOS village received orphan children and had a higher capacity for males than females and the Jasmine Society received all children with Down's syndrome and the ratio was higher for males than females but the reasons for this were not identified.

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Outreach

How youth are made aware of the activities available to them is a major determinant of their access to these activities provided by their local community. Focus groups participants in all governorates agreed that the outreach method was the main obstacle in limiting a larger number of youth from participating in youth activities and that they observed the 'same faces' phenomena in which the youth that participated in various activities were always the same people. The reasons they identified for the 'same faces' phenomena included:

- Outreach methods' ineffectiveness in reaching a wider population
- Lack of time or interest of youth
- Lack of awareness of the importance and nature of voluntary work
- Lack of commitment to voluntary work without financial compensation – Many youth participate in activities only once. The economic crisis creates a need for youth to find work rather than participate in activities or unpaid voluntary work.
- Organizations preferred regular volunteers they already knew and did not follow up with new youth to participate
- Promises made by CBOs and small organizations are not kept which leads to lack of trust from youth's part
- Female youth were hindered from participating due to cultural taboos

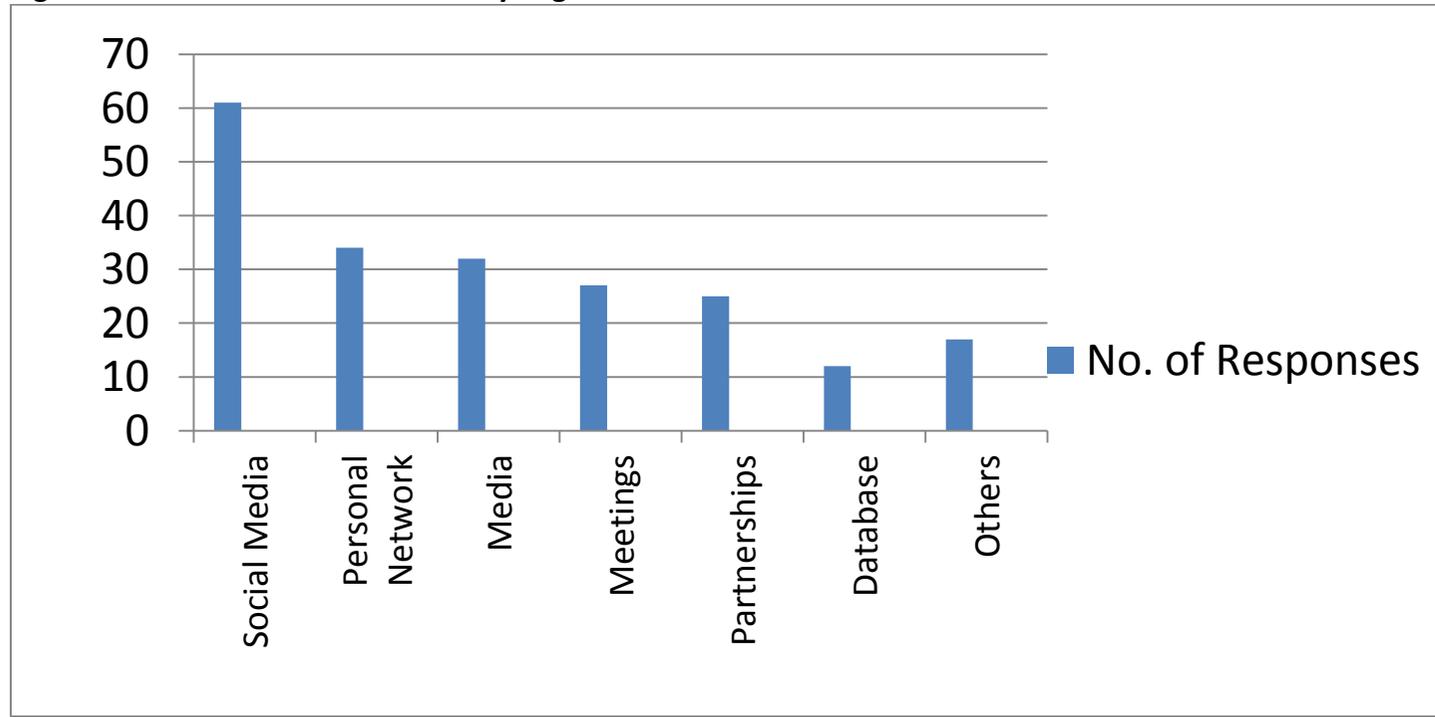
Ninety organizations were asked how they made youth aware of and participate in the activities they provided. Figure 15 below illustrates the responses given by the organizations as to what method of outreach they used. The majority of organizations responded with more than one method of outreach. However, social networking, which was the most frequent method used was reported by focus group participants in governorates other than Amman as ineffective, because of lack of access to internet and lack of effective internet research or information literacy skills of youth in remote and semi-remote local community areas to access these opportunities.

Personal networking referred to youth participants or the organizations' coordinators referring youth they know to take part in activities by word of mouth. This, however, may account to one of the main reasons for the 'same faces' phenomena. Media referred to advertisements placed in newspapers or magazines or announcements made on the radio and television. Meetings included routine meetings with youth that were regular volunteers or 'members' of an organization or random meetings held in youth centers, schools, universities or places that compromised a large percentage of youth to inform them of the activity being made available to them. Several organizations made use of the partnerships they had with other organizations, both large NGOs and CBOs in remote governorate areas, to reach out to a larger youth audience in remote and semi-remote governorate areas. The least frequent outreach method utilized by organizations in this mapping exercise was the use of a roaster. Organizations that utilized this method provided an opportunity for interested youth, either on-line or in person, to provide their contact details and informed these participants when an opportunity arose. Other outreach methods as

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referred to in the below table included using an appropriate method for the type of activity available such as selecting underprivileged schools to take part in a project or activity of a project, making youth aware of available opportunities through a local community youth committees and fund raising events such as Marathons.

Figure 15: Outreach Methods Used by Organizations



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Funding Sources

Since donor funding is the lifeline of non-profit, civil society organizations and informal youth groups in Jordan, it is no surprise that 72 of the 105 organizations in this mapping exercise labeled funding as the major challenge they face when implementing their activities. This challenge has many dimensions since the donor organizations sometimes exercise limitations and restrictions that challenge the ideals and mission of an organization's purpose and social work. For this reason, several organizations rely on other means such as self-funding, forming partnerships, providing a service for which it can use the finances to carry out its activities, and seeking private sector companies' social corporate responsibility. Other organizations have a deeper community based purpose and rather rely on the local community to overcome a social challenge. For example, the No Honor in Crime Initiative tackles the very deeply rooted social challenge of honor crimes. To gain the consent of the local communities, the Initiative refuses to accept any form of funding from international donor organizations so that the local community is persuaded of the intentions of citizens of that same local community, rather than directing intentions to a foreign authority. For this reason, the No Honor in Crime Initiative resorts to local partnerships to complete their activities and currently seek local funding. Other organizations such as the Abdul Hameed Shoman are completely funded by the Arab Bank and refuse any external funding as a policy of this non-profit organization.

Figure 16 illustrates responses of organizations as to the means used to fund their activities. Most of the organizations responded that they resorted to more than one form of funding opportunity to carry out their youth activities. Partnerships and the private sector were the most frequent funding sources for organizations. Partnerships here either referred to in-kind donations and moral support from government or private sector companies or to the delegation of activities to other organizations who are specialized in a certain field. An example of this would be the partnerships formed by organizations for office space or for space to carry out their activities or for organization furniture or activity stationary. One organization's partnership with the private sector included bringing in celebrities to raise funds for the organization's activities. Other examples include organizations that partner with the government to assist in their achieving the national agenda activities in various sectors in which the government would support and facilitate the implementation of that organizations' activities. This is especially the case for Royal NGOs and organizations and programs that are chaired by a member of the royal family. Other partnerships included organizations completing each other's activities according to their specialization. For example a Youth center specialized in human rights raises awareness of youth about gender based violence (GBV) and it partners with an organization specialized in performing arts to build the capacity of youth so that they may present their understanding of GBV using interactive theater sketches.

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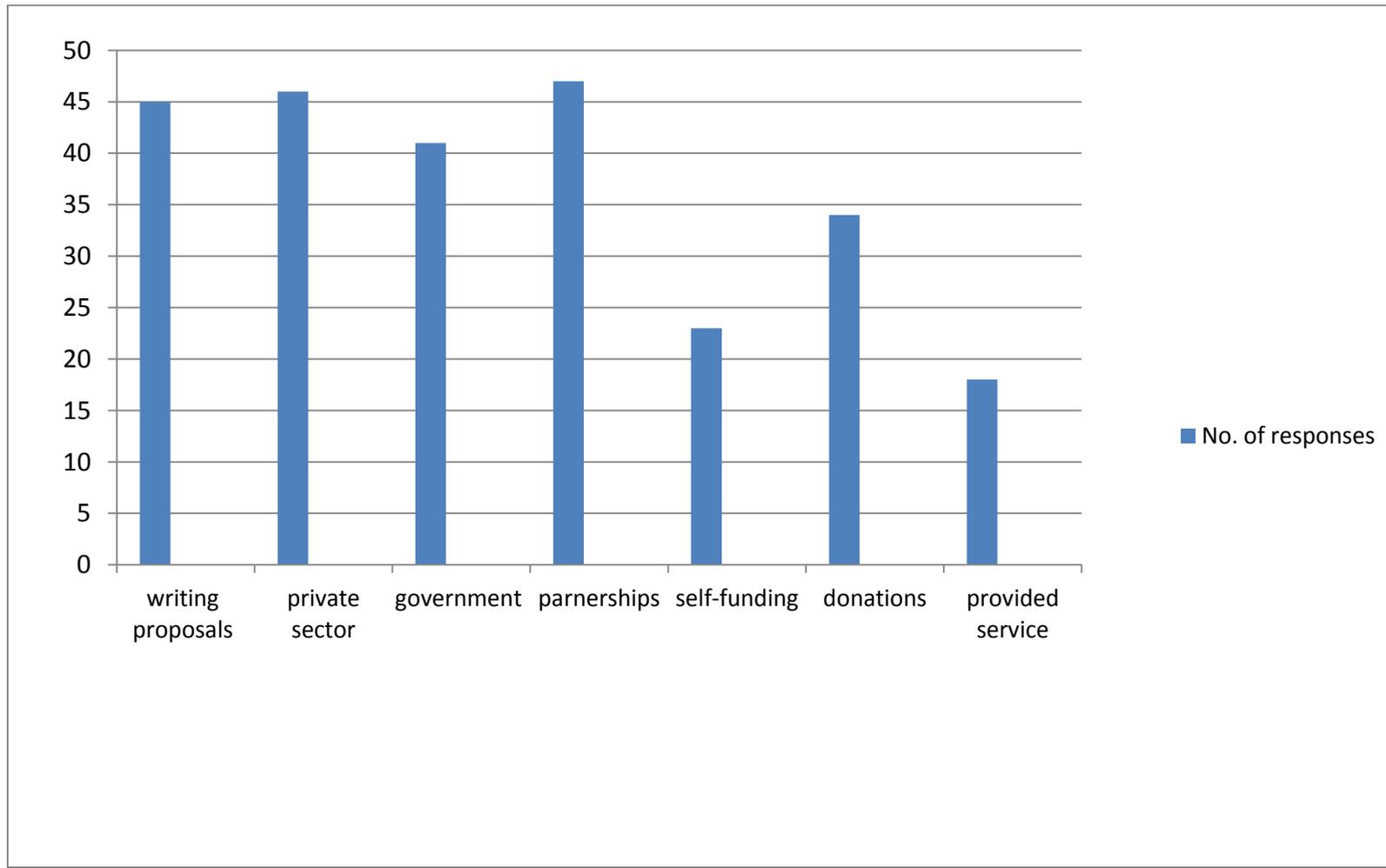
The government and private sector provided funding for organizations in the form of financial support or in kind donations which were mostly in the form of symbolic financial assistance. Larger government financial funding was allocated mostly to the royal NGOs and to large non-profit organizations who signed a long term contract with the government, an example would be a few organizations which were established by the King Abdullah II Fund for Development. The Private sector also provided small to large sized financial support to small and large organizations through their corporate social responsibility campaign and were a major target of many of the Initiatives and small and large sized organizations.

A variety of organizations also applied to various grants provided by large international donors such as the United Nations Organizations, European Union, and the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI). These were mostly confined to registered organizations that had a track record of work with the local community and were more difficult for small CBOs and informal youth groups to apply to. However, some smaller organizations that not only targeted youth but consisted of administrative youth representation that were established after 2010 such as the Youth for Youth Association were provided with an opportunity to apply to grants and work with large donor organizations such as the UN.

An example of an Initiative that provided a service for the community in exchange for a fee and used the finances derived from the service to fund the activities they implemented in their target community is the Zikra Initiative. The Zikra Initiative uses the fee they charge for the cultural exchange program "Bandora Day" with Al Ghor Al Mazraa local community to fund all the activities they implement to contribute to the development of that community. A number of informal youth groups such as Masar, which aimed at encouraging local tourism, raised the awareness of youth to the historical significance and importance of the environment of these touristic areas for a symbolic fee that covered the cost of the trips. Other organizations, some of which were interviewed but did not agree to be a part of this mapping exercise, were registered as for profit companies or limited liability companies and provided services for the private sector and used a portion of the profit to fund activities that aimed at developing the local community in various sectors.

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Figure 16: Funding Sources



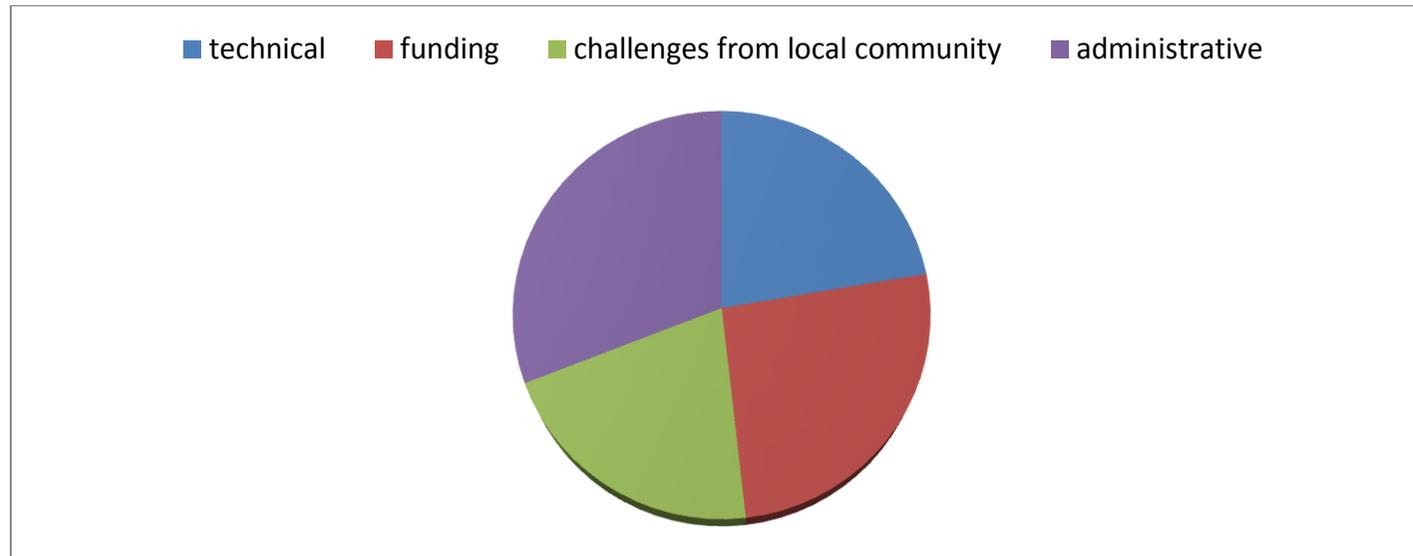
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Organizational Challenges:

All organizations were asked about the challenges they face when executing their activities, whether it is in the planning or implementation phase. Funding as discussed earlier received the most responses that organizations face as a challenge. The lack of information on youth related activities was not mentioned to be a challenge for organizations when designing and executing their activities but it may be the underlying reason for the many challenges that institutions face. For example, it may be the main reason why organizations face funding challenges.

Organizations made more than one response when identifying the challenges they faced. These challenges have been classified into administrative, technical and challenges that organizations face from the local community as illustrated in the figure below.

Figure 17: Organizational Challenges

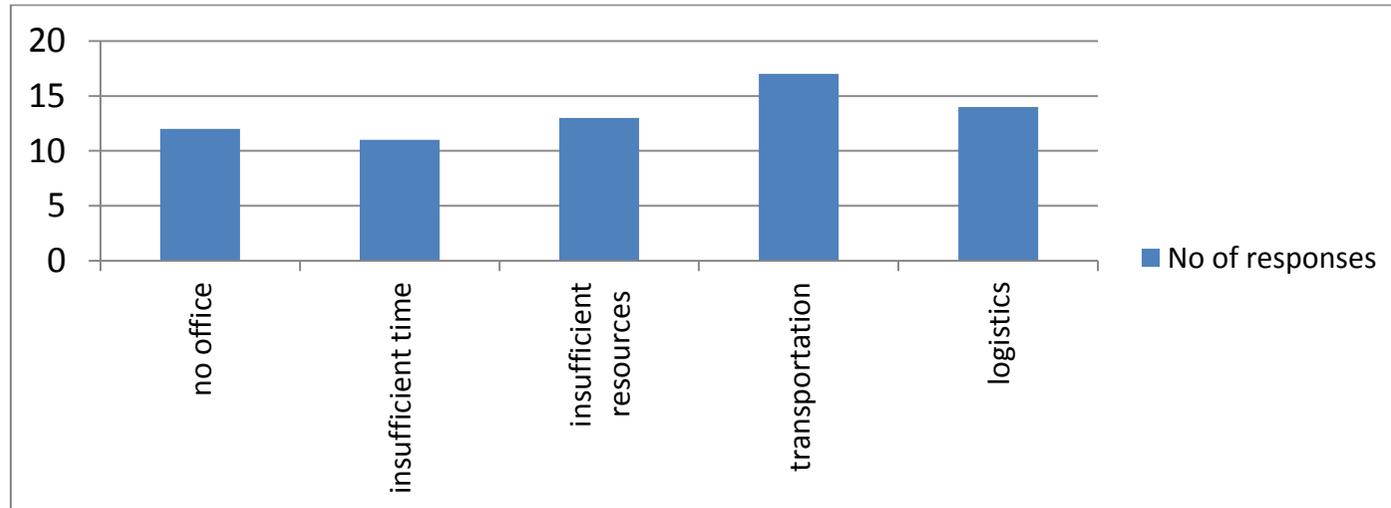


The technical challenges could further be classified into the responses illustrated in the figure 18 below. Organizations stated that the main reason for these challenges was due to the fact that funding, especially from INGOs, did not cover the running cost of the organization itself, including funding for resources,

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salary for administrative staff to arrange logistics, transportation costs of employees and participants, and funding to rent offices but that funding was mostly allocated to the execution of the activities. Small civil societies and informal youth groups who were either self-funded or received small funds, mostly from the private sector, chose to use the funding to execute their activities as a main priority. Several organizations also mentioned that office accommodation and furniture, as well as resources were provided to them as in-kind donations because it should be the objective of non-profit organizations and CSOs to run activities for community development.

Figure 18: Technical Challenges

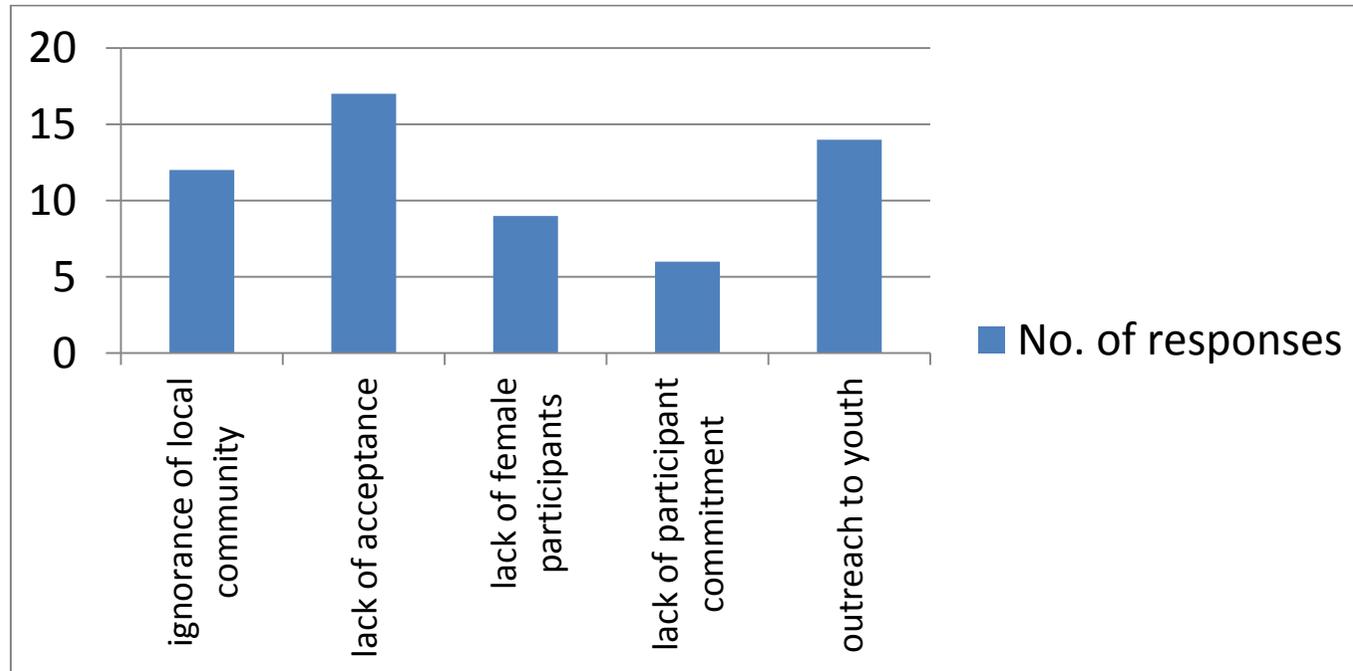


The challenges faced by organizations from the local community when implementing activities are described in the various responses as shown in the figure 19 below. It can easily be observed that all of these challenges arise from a lack of awareness of the local community. The lack of acceptance of the community to the implementation of a certain activity received the most responses and it can be attributed to the lack of appreciation or understanding of the local community to the importance of the activity for community development. The reason for this may also be attributed to cultural taboos and traditional mindsets of the local community, which may be difficult to alter. The second most popular challenge in this section was for the outreach to youth. This again may be due to the lack of youth awareness of the availability of that opportunity or lack of interest in participation due to lack of knowledge of the

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importance of the activity. Even the lack of participant commitment to the activity, which received the least number of responses, may be attributed to lack of awareness of the participant to the importance of the activity and the objective which it aims at achieving.

Figure 19: Organizational Challenges Faced from the Local Community

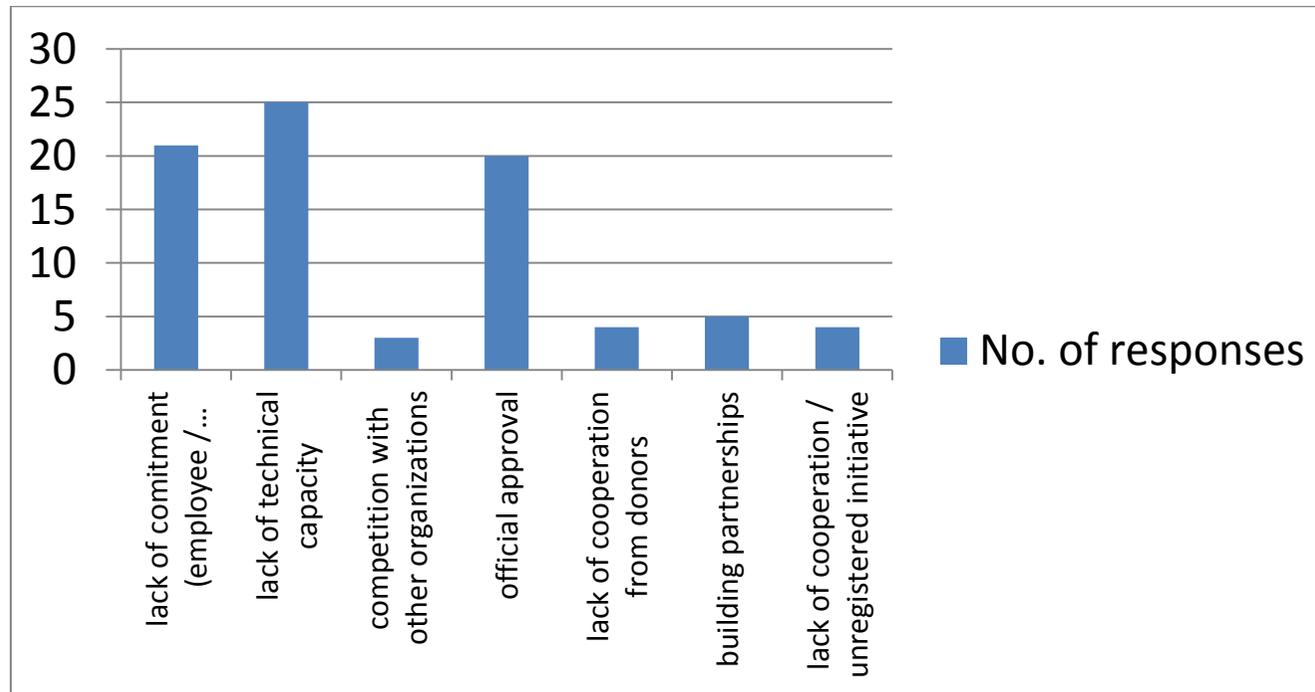


Administrative challenges include what is illustrated in the figure below xxxxx and account for the most reported types of challenges. These were challenges associated with the running of the activities and the internal challenges that organizations, CSOs and informal youth groups face internally and externally, from the donor and receiving government or official approval. The most reported of the administrative challenges was the lack of technical capacity, in which organizations stated they did not possess an adequate number of employees with the technical capacity to run the activities. Similarly, the second most reported challenge was the lack of commitment of employees and volunteers. Organizations reported that this was because the voluntary nature of the work, whether it was employees working in CSOs on a voluntary basis or volunteers, demanded an effort but did not present an exchange for this effort,

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mostly financial. This could be an indication of the lack of volunteer spirit because volunteers and employees would rather utilize their time to create a better standard of livelihood. Although both of these challenges can be classified as internal challenges that an organization may face, there were also external administrative challenges including receiving official approval for running activities such as getting approval from the government to run a particular activity in a government school that was also popularly reported. Other external challenges that were not as popularly reported but were emphasized strongly by CSOs and small non-profit companies included the competition they faced with the larger, well known organizations for funding from the private sector. The private sector was reported to prefer providing their corporate social responsibility to larger non-profit companies and RNGOs that were more well-known and could market their contribution more widely.

Figure 20: Administrative Challenges



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Recommendations:

1. Documentation of the ratio of male to female participants in youth activities provided by non-profit companies, civil societies and informal youth groups so that there may be an accurate record of female participation in youth activities. This will provide a more accurate record of female participation, the gaps and in which sectors and will account for a more thorough analysis of the needs and opportunities provided for female youth. Organizations can create a simple database or excel sheet that keeps a record of female to male participation ratios in the various activities they provide to youth with comments to clarify the ratios when the need arises.
2. Organizations should use a variety of methods for outreach to a wider audience of youth that is appropriate to the local community(s) they are targeting identified by youth as well as the organizations conducting the activities. Focus groups, informal meetings and interviews with youth from various local communities will assist in identifying the most suitable methods of outreach to provide a wider audience of youth with access to various activities and opportunities in various local communities. Organizations need to emphasize the need for reaching a 'new' youth audience to avoid the 'same faces' phenomena. This can be achieved through the creation of a database by all non-profit companies, civil society organizations and informal youth groups that keeps a record of the names of all participants, dates and types of activities youth participated in to limit the repetitive participation of the same youth in activities that possess similar objectives in various organizations that conduct similar activities.
3. Raise the awareness of the local community to the objectives of the activity provided for youth, what it aims at achieving and how it will assist in developing the local community as well as youth skills before implementation of the activity. This will help to overcome the administrative challenges faced by organizations mentioned above, enhance outreach to a wider audience of youth and may provide communities with awareness of the types of activities available to youth to avoid activity repetition.

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