

# The Platform for Justice Sector Reform

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## *Enhancing Public Support of Justice Sector Reform in Jordan*

### **About The Platform**

The project “Enhancing Public Support for Justice Sector Reform in Jordan” came at a crucial time during which Jordan was making numerous justice sector, legal, governmental, and human rights reforms. This project has raised awareness and support for reforms made over the past five to ten years, while also raising awareness and ensuring correct implementation of reforms made over just the past year.

The project is rooted in a participatory approach which has helped spread awareness, interest, and engagement in project activities because the community feels they have a voice in the ways in which key messages are spread. One key project achievement is the creation of a steering committee.

In partnership with Durrat Al Manal for Development and Training (DMDT), the Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD) put together an 18 member representative steering committee composed of judges, lawyers, civil society actors, community activists, national actors, academics, and representatives from UNHCR and the Ministry of Justice. It includes participants from outside of the capital, representing governorates in the south, center, and north of Jordan, including people with disabilities. As such, the voice and reach of the committee covers the interests of different people across Jordan, including rural and marginalized groups.

Ensuring sustainability was a key goal for ARDD and DMDT which also helped increase participation as members were more willing to participate in an activity with longevity and a guaranteed impact, rather than something that would only last a short period of time. There was a resounding interest in the need for the continuity of the Steering Committee but under the title of “Platform for Justice Sector Reform”.

### **Key Objectives**

The platform aims to accomplish the following:

- Raise public awareness about key reform initiatives in the justice sector;
- Enhance project visibility, credibility and trust between the community and justice sector stakeholders;
- Promote the values of justice, the rule of law and accountability;
- Carry the spirit of reform beyond the lifespan of the project;
- Generate a sense of ownership over the project amongst justice sector practitioners, civil society and the general public;
- Increase the visibility of the project throughout its lifespan.

The role of the Platform for Justice Sector Reform was to deliberate, make decisions, advise, provide strategic oversight, and serve as the primary “advocate” for all assigned initiatives. The effectiveness of the Steering Committee was dependent on the level of commitment demonstrated by members and the experience members have had in this role. Through media and community awareness sessions, the diversity, experience, and dedication of this committee enabled a strong social dialogue.

The success of the Platform for Justice Sector reform stems not only from its conception as a platform for dialogue, but also as an embodiment of the core values of this project: driving change from within society.

The Platform for Justice Sector reform is led by women; as the committee enhanced its visibility and role in the community and justice sector, women were at the head of the initiative and were strongly represented.

## Platform Founders

The Platform for Justice Sector reform is founded and managed by the following people:

- 1) DMDT:
  - CEO Ms. Manal AlWazany: [Manal.Wazani@durratalmanal.org.jo](mailto:Manal.Wazani@durratalmanal.org.jo)
  - Senate Dr. Sawsan AlMajali: [Sawsan.Majali@durratalmanal.org.jo](mailto:Sawsan.Majali@durratalmanal.org.jo)
  - Senate Judge Fedaa AlHmoud: [fidaa23@yahoo.com](mailto:fidaa23@yahoo.com)
- 2) ARDD:
  - CEO Ms. Samar Muhareb: [smuhareb@ardd-jo.org](mailto:smuhareb@ardd-jo.org)