



IN BRIEF

Resilience and Empowerment of Vulnerable Women: The Future of Jordan's Growth and Stability

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The Oasis of Change: Abeer's Journey towards a Better Future

Abeer Abu-Rizeq, a 48-year-old woman from Jordan and mother of a 13-year-old, faced hardships after her divorce and the amputation of her right foot. Her life changed positively through her involvement with the UN Women-operated Oasis Centre in Madaba. This centre, funded by the European Union Trust Fund 'Madad' and in partnership with Jordan's Ministry of Social Development, focuses on empowering vulnerable women.

"I am very grateful that I learnt about this centre and the courses it offers. I found out about it through my friends. My acceptance into the programme came at just the right time, which was much needed, as I am divorced now and have a son whom I need to take good care of. Additionally, I have a disability that makes my condition quite challenging." Abeer stated.

The project's overall objective is to enhance the effectiveness of humanitarian and resilience-building efforts in Jordan, particularly for vulnerable Jordanian and Syrian women refugees.

Since late 2021, UN Women Jordan has been engaged in redesigning the Oasis model, with focus on maximizing project synergies for transformational impact, enhancing the quality of interventions, and increasing investment in inclusive national systems for deeper impact and sustainability. For Abeer, this experience was a transformative challenge. "This experience was challenging in a good way; I was able to step out of my comfort zone and try something new. Everyone at the centre was very understanding and supportive. Also, people here helped me choose the course that's more suitable for my case, I wanted to register in the Aesthetician training course, but they recommended the tailoring course, which I found highly enjoyable and beneficial".



Photo: UN Women/Bashar Al-Jabari

Abeer Abu-Rizeq during a sewing class at the UN Women Madaba Oasis Centre.

The salary I received during my time at the centre was a great assistance, it made many things easier for me at that time. After the course I started my own business again, but this time from home. I am working as a tailor, developing my skills and always trying new techniques.

I recommended the course to many women within my circle. Even now that I have completed it, I still like to pay visits to the centre, meet with the facilitators and other women. I also hope there will be more courses that I can register for in the future."

For Abeer, the journey has been about continuous self-improvement. "My advice to all women is to always work on themselves and keep learning. It's always nice to learn new things that make us improve. There are always people out there willing to help and guide us."

Abeer's dream for the future involves expanding her tailor business, acquiring new equipment, and ensuring a stable source of income for her and her family. Her story exemplifies the positive impact of the Oasis Centre on women in Jordan.



Photo: UN Women

Susanne Mikhail, Regional Director for UN Women in the Arab States, visits the Azraq Refugee Camp, engaging deeply with Syrian refugee women. Mikhail listens to their powerful stories of resilience and hope, reflecting on a decade spent in Jordanian camps. These women, beneficiaries of the Oasis project, share their experiences and the positive impact of the program's support, which includes vocational training, childcare, and entrepreneurial guidance. Mikhail acknowledges the critical financial assistance from global donors, emphasizing the ongoing need for support and her commitment to stand by these women in their journey towards a hopeful future.

Ala'a's Path to Resilience and Creativity



Photo: UN Women/Bashar Al-Jabari

Ala'a Al-Kasabreh, a mother of four daughters from Jordan and a housewife, discovered the Oasis centre in Madaba through a friend's recommendation and proceeded to apply via the available online link.

When asked whether she faced any challenges when she first joined the centre, Ala'a said, "I didn't encounter any difficulties with my family when I started the tailoring course here. They were very supportive and encouraging. The experience was very different and interesting to me; it was beneficial and rewarding. The staff at the centre were also very encouraging. After my experience at the Oasis centre, I am now more creative, more open to other new experiences."

Click [here](#) to read the full story.



Photo: ARDD

Jerash – Islam, from Jerash Governorate, north of Amman, is one of the participants in the training of trainers activities within the project: "Empowering Each Other: United for Change", a strategic partnership between the Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD) and UN Women Jordan, funded by the European Union, with the aim of providing young women and men with the knowledge and skills to become trained in civic engagement and social protection in their governorates, as well as adopting positive behaviors, raising awareness, and increasing participation among men and women alike.

[Click here](#) to read the story.



Photo: UN Women

Reem, a mother of five, recently graduated from the UN Women Jordan Oasis centre's Incentive-Based Volunteering program, funded by the EU Trust Fund 'Madad'. She advocates for women's self-improvement and community contribution. Her success highlights women's empowerment and resilience.