

Arab Women Organization of Jordan

Who we are

The Arab Women Organization of Jordan-AWO is a feminist civil society organization specializing in women's rights and gender equality.

Established in 1970 by a group of women activists. As of 2000, AWO has been supported by diversified donors and partnered with several international, Euro-Med, Arab, and Jordanian networks. In 2005, AWO established a local network for uniting the voices of women in local community-based organizations. As of 2011, AWO started pursuing the end of GBV against Syrian women refugees in Jordan, according to UNSCR 1325.

AWO is dedicated to achieving SDGs, especially SDG 5, to increase women's political and economic participation as well as eradicate all forms of violence against women and girls. Additionally, AWO is keen to participate in new topics, such as Climate Change and Gender and localization. To date, AWO has launched social campaigns and initiatives in all the Jordanian governorates. Locally, AWO is an active player in Himam, an alliance of human rights organizations seeking to stop shrinking space policies against civil society organizations.

Promote SDGs, especially Goal 5



Goals



Develop National, Regional, and International partnerships



Strengthen women capacities to adapt to Climate Change

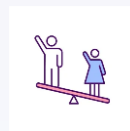


Women Political Empowerment and Leadership program



Programs

Gender Responsive Humanitarian and Development Program



Women Economic and Environmental Empowerment Program



AWO Accomplishment during 2023



Building an enabling legal environment:

Legal Analysis of Association's Laws in Selected Arab Countries
(Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Tunisia, Morocco and Libya)

Regional Legal Analysis

AWO successfully conducted a regional report analyzing civil society laws in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Tunisia, Morocco, and Libya. This report aimed to dissect the legal framework surrounding civil society work, shedding light on challenges, restrictions, and variations between laws and practices. The findings serve as a crucial resource for civil society advocacy efforts to counteract the shrinking space for civic engagement.

Case Studies on Dialogue of Inter-Generational Gap

Intergenerational Dialogue in the MENA Region



AWO conducted three case studies, each focusing on the dynamics of generational dialogue within civil society organizations. These case studies provided a nuanced analysis of the experiences of organizations implementing programs on the topic of intergenerational dialogue. The studies included an exploration of weaknesses, strengths, opportunities, and challenges faced by these organizations. AWO strategically emphasized the importance of engaging youth as active participants in civil society organizations to counteract the shrinking civic space. This approach aligns with the overarching goal of bridging the complex generational gap within civil society.

Empowering CBOs through Sub-Grants



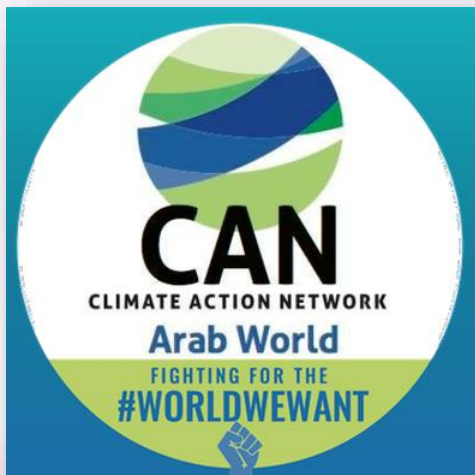
AWO granted financial support to 5 CBOs in the central and northern governorates. These grants were specifically given for projects related to (UNSCR) 1325, which focuses on the crucial role of women in peace and security. By providing financial backing, AWO contributed to the practical implementation of initiatives promoting women's inclusion in conflict resolution and peacebuilding efforts.

Capacity building of women to adapt to Climate Change

The active participation of AWO in the meetings of the Climate and Women's Group within the Arab States Civil Society Organization and Feminist Network, which convenes regularly to seek solutions to mitigate the impact of climate change on women and girls.



AWO is a member of the Climate Action Network in the Arab world, aiming to expand its work and exchange experiences in implementing environmental projects and initiatives. It also participated in the Third Regional Forum on Women and Climate in Tunisia in September, to contribute to discussions and share insights, to generate recommendations from the participating entities for presentation at COP 28, held in the United Arab Emirates.



Achievements of AWO Programmes in 2023

Women

01

94 Women and young women benefited from the Women's Political Empowerment and Leadership Programme.

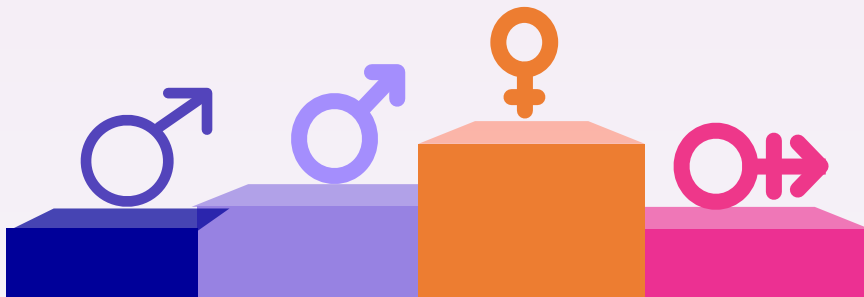
1701 Women and young women benefited from the services of the Economic Empowerment Programme.

8771 Women benefited from Psycho-Social support and GBV services within the Gender Responsive Humanitarian and Development Programme

Men

02

549 Men benefited from Psycho-Social support and GBV services within the Gender Responsive Humanitarian and Development Programme



Girls

03

1476 Girls benefited from Psycho-Social support and GBV services within the Gender Responsive Humanitarian and Development Programme

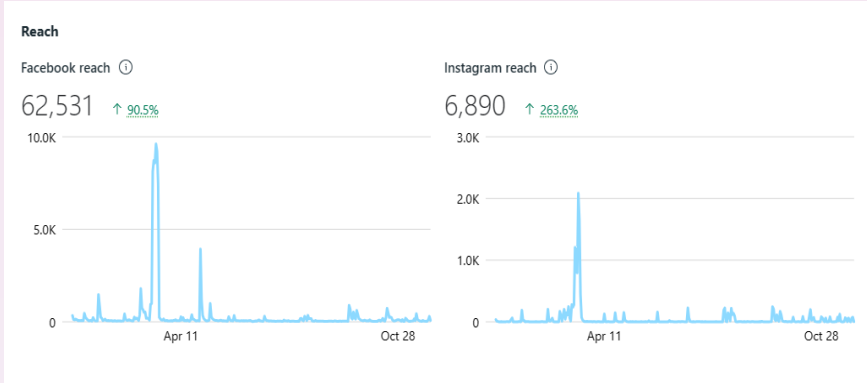
Boys

04

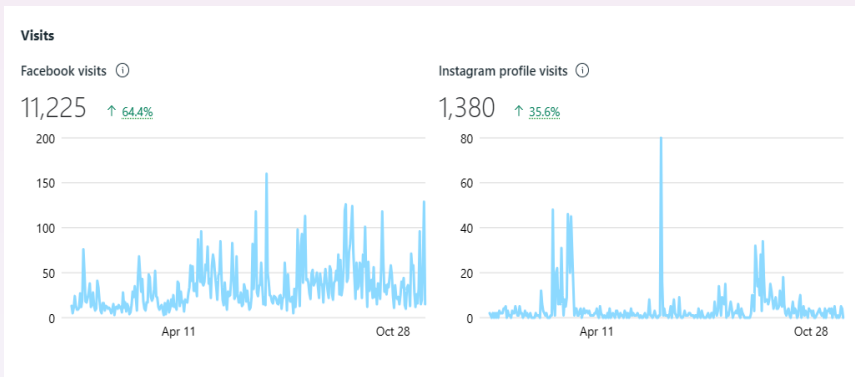
68 Boys benefited from Psycho-Social support and GBV services within the Gender Responsive Humanitarian and Development Programme

Social Media Reach During 2023

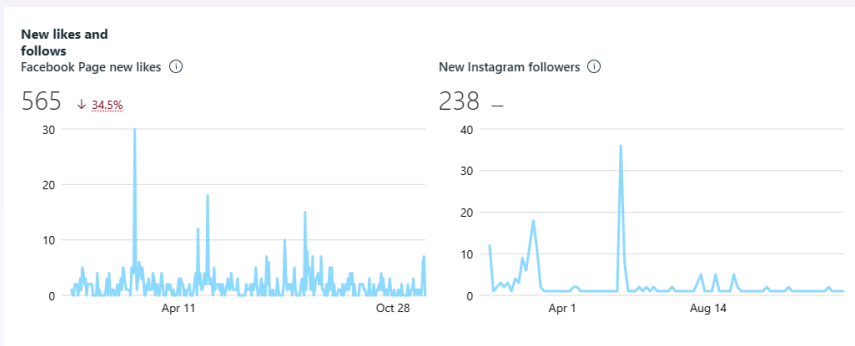
Facebook and Instagram Reach



Facebook and Instagram Visits



Likes and Followers on Facebook and Instagram



LESSONS LEARNED

Diversification of Funding Sources



Relying on a diverse range of funding sources mitigates the impact of resource limitations. AWO has learned that a diversified funding base provides financial stability and reduces vulnerability to external pressures, this strategic approach not only fortifies the organization's financial standing but also reduces vulnerability to external pressures, such as economic fluctuations or policy changes.

Inclusivity is a Priority



The challenge of inaccessible infrastructure for people with disabilities underscored the critical importance of inclusivity. AWO recognized the need to proactively address accessibility concerns to ensure the active participation of all community members. This lesson emphasized the organization's commitment to creating inclusive spaces for women with disabilities.

Continual Monitoring and Evaluation



Regular monitoring of the legal and political landscape is crucial. AWO has found that staying informed allows for the anticipation of challenges, adjustment of strategies, and the taking of proactive measures to safeguard its activities.

Skill Enhancement Drives Sustainable Change



AWO's experience in capacity building highlighted the significance of ongoing skill enhancement. The organization learned that investing in staff training and skill development contributes to both individual and organizational growth, ultimately supporting sustainable and impactful program implementation.

Cultural Sensitivity and Contextual Understanding



Acknowledging and understanding the cultural and societal context is vital. AWO navigates its advocacy in ways that respect local norms while pushing for positive change.

International Partnership as a Tool



Engaging with international organizations and diplomatic channels is a potent tool. By drawing attention to challenges at the international level, AWO has found that it can exert pressure and encourage a more supportive environment.

Learning story

When two dreams meet...

"Nehaya Al-Radaidah," a young woman who faces short stature, had a dream when she assumed her position as the manager of the Al-Nahda Organization for Mobility Challenges in Irbid and became the head of women's committee. "My dream was to shed light on the problems and challenges faced by women and girls with disabilities in society... I networked with organizations and civil society organizations to integrate girls with disabilities into developmental projects, and my ambition was to provide small grants for vocational projects that would generate income for them and their families."

AWO also had a dream to reach out to all organizations that provide programs for women, from young girls to elderly women, from women with disabilities to refugees. Particularly, they aimed to implement targeted programs for economic participation in local communities that ensure equality, equal rights, and prevent economic violence against vulnerable groups in the informal sectors.

The valuable opportunity arose when AWO received support from the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the project "Feminist Power in Action for Women's Economic Rights (FEM PAWER)" through Kvinna till Kvinna (KTK).

AWO chose to support organizations that offer programs for all women, including those with disabilities. Based on their previous knowledge of Nehaya Al-Radaidah's efforts, AWO provided support to "Al-Nahda for Mobility Challenges organization" in a four-year program.

And so, the two dreams has been merged, and today Nehaya and her colleagues work passionately to empower individuals with mobility challenges in order to implement advocacy programs and conduct research to address the demands of people with mobility challenges



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