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JORDAN EDUCATION INITIATIVE, November 2005

CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS

The Government of Jordan and the World Economic Forum would like to recognize the following organizations that are actively contributing to the efforts of the Jordan Education Initiative (JEI).

Company/Organization Contribution and Rationale “in their own words”

Aramex

Our modest contribution to this ambitious initiative of the World Economic Forum in Jordan is in the spirit of the corporate culture of Aramex. We believe that the Jordan Education Initiative is a valuable catalyst for building a better future for the children of Jordan, and a great example of a successful collaboration and partnership between public and private organizations sharing the vision of the World Economic Forum. We at Aramex believe that the success of any corporation is not about financial profitability alone, but also about commitment to life, people and society. Aramex has thus far contributed logistics support for the iPAQ Project and supplied free shipment of equipment to the Initiative.

British Council

The British Council worked with the Ministry of Education to develop an evaluation framework for the JEI. The purpose of the evaluation framework is to provide key stakeholders (MOE and Ministry of ICT) and sponsoring stakeholders (WEF & private sector partners) with data to inform policy development and enable stakeholders to judge the value of JEI in enhancing quality learning in schools. The Framework was developed by a group of UK experts (from the Universities of Oxford Brookes, Brighton & Nottingham and led by Keele University) drawing on relevant models of best practice from the UK and internationally. The Framework was agreed and finalised in March 2005.

The UK team in collaboration with local consultants are currently working on the collection of a baseline data set that would facilitate the final evaluation of the JEI. This process of structured data collection, analysis and reporting will also inform the further development of the JEI and similar initiatives in the region. This data set is expected to be completed by end of November 2005.

CADER (ChangeAgent for Arab Development and Education Reform)

CADER is a consortium of six global and local institutions representing three prominent universities and three private companies joining together their collective efforts of knowledge, resources and experience in ICT to provide a tailor made solution that is implemented in Jordan as its pilot model as well as its launch pad to the Arab World.

Currently, CADER is going further with implementing its teacher training program under the joined umbrellas of Yarmouk University and INHOLLAND University. This program came as a direct response to MoE's need for a national professional development program for in-service teachers that integrate modern pedagogies with the cutting edge of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). A special kind of coordination between CADER and the JEI is taking place; through which the JEI contributes to providing quick infrastructure solutions in the schools of teachers enrolled in the High Diploma Program CADER is offering. As for the strategy level,



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CADER will be responsible for providing resources from INHOLLAND University to work on and develop this track.

Cisco Learning Institute

With the assistance of a substantial investment by Cisco Systems Inc., the Cisco Learning Institute (CLI) is contributing in a variety of ways to the Jordan Education Initiative (JEI) to improve Mathematics, Science and English as a Foreign Language education in Jordan while establishing a successful model for education reform in other disciplines and in other developing countries. Among other services, CLI is providing project management, content development, education consulting, professional development training, documentation and assessment strategy consulting. For CLI, this represents a unique opportunity to improve the lives of Jordanian citizens, assist in capacity building for a knowledge economy, build a model for education reform around the world, as well as contribute to economic development and growth in the Middle East.

Cisco Systems

As a founding member of the JEI, Cisco has been integrally involved since the concept stage of the JEI. Cisco has contributed several million dollars of funding, technology and resources, as well as

promoting collaboration among initiative participants to help ensure a coordinated effort. By wielding technology and the Internet to bring quality education to a broader audience, Cisco and other participants seek to bridge the education gap between industrialized and developing countries. For Cisco, the Jordan Education Initiative represents a unique opportunity, not only to improve the lives of Jordanian citizens and build a model for education reform around the world, but also to contribute towards long-term economic stability in the Middle East.

CommercialWare / Vector Capital / Corel Corporation

Vector Capital, a San Francisco based venture capital firm, seeks to contribute to the Jordan Education Initiative by leading Track 3, an assessment of Jordan's ICT sector. Spearheaded by Amish Mehta, Vector Capital will endeavour to contribute to Jordan the firm's expertise, experiences and networks that have helped build successful technology companies globally. Additionally, an investment of Vector Capital, Corel Corporation, a provider of office productivity and graphics software that is heavily used by thousands of students globally, is eager to contribute to the Jordan Education Initiative. Corel is keen to provide licenses for broad use of its software products, including its flagship products, WordPerfect and CorelDraw, by Jordanian educational institutions. These combined contributions, valued in excess of US\$1 million, are intended to help advance Jordan's ICT sector and significantly enhance the educational experience of Jordanian students.

Computer Associates

CA is contributing a full-time Program Manager, working in conjunction with the Jordanian government, heading up the JEI Program Management Office, to manage the entire initiative. CA



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is also providing over two and a half million dollars worth of anti-virus software for both the servers in the data centers and Jordan's entire public school infrastructure to ensure the integrity of the schools systems are intact. CA is a strong proponent of using the power of technology to erase the social, political, economic and geographical barriers that traditionally have prevented many children from securing the knowledge and training they need to succeed. We see this initiative as providing a map to be able to achieve this not just in Jordan, but also in other developing nations in the future. The management of projects such as this is vital to their success.

Connectivity Partners International

Connectivity Partners International (CPI) made a \$50,000 in-kind commitment to support the JEI, specifically the Life Long Learning Track. To date we have provided the initial draft overview and work plan, an organization and activity plan for a fact-finding phase, an outline of the elements of a model LLL strategy and policy and some examples of successful strategies/policies. In support of the Ministry ERfKE program, CPI has also identified ways in which the pending Jordan Broadband Learning Network might best be harnessed for improved teaching and learning performance, increased operational efficiency and a more empowered local school administration. CPI is starting work with MoICT and Cisco systems on the extension of Jordan's University Network to other countries in the Middle East and North Africa.

Corning Cable Systems

Corning believes its fiber and copper based connectivity solutions within and between schools and campuses can help the JEI to achieve its final goals. Corning has introduced one of its latest fiberoptic cable installation technologies, Micro Cabling Systems, which is especially designed to optimize the project costs and timeline in metro areas. Corning, entirely at its own cost, confirmed to connect 3 schools in the Amman city area with optical fibers. Corning wants to contribute more in this direction should the pilot project be successfully implemented, and has already confirmed its willingness to take an active part in the network planning. Corning is proud to be involved in JEI, and we will continue to explore additional value adding opportunities as they arise.

Dell

Dell has donated 20 high performance notebooks to the JEI with a market value of approximately US\$ 60,000. Dell will also support the JEI by offering additional systems at preferential conditions as well as expertise to assist with strategy and architecture for servers, storage and disaster recovery. Dell and its employees are committed to building technology that helps communities and making efforts that will contribute positively to their development. Our products, services and expertise will deliver a great experience for teachers and students in Jordan.

DHL

DHL's contributions include providing input, funding for the initial research and content into the Lifelong Learning (LLL) Track, sourcing and providing research materials to the JEI Program Management Office (PMO), transporting materials to Jordan from the United States for the JEI, and providing general support by DHL personnel. The creation and maintenance of up-to-date



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skills are essential for both national and individual business successes. The LLL provides a conduit for DHL to provide best demonstrated practice materials and support to the Jordanian national and business communities and assist them in their drive to create information and skill based economic infrastructure. The vision for our contribution is:

- Create an attractive and relevant learning and skill maintenance environment for the national work force
- Establish a skills based and effective economic environment within which to practise those skills
- Assist in the development of a best demonstrated practice national LLL initiative that can be referenced and reused globally.

ERfKE Support Project

The JEI Program Management Office is pleased to recognize ERfKE Support Project as a contributing organization to the JEI.

Estarta Solutions

Estarta Solutions' contributions will be multi-dimensional in the areas of policy and quality analysis, and technology development. If we contribute on average about 20 weeks of work to this, about US\$ 50,000 worth of world-class technology services will be provided. Furthermore, we will look to leverage our relationships with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and other fine institutions to benefit the JEI.

e-dimension

In fulfillment of the 'Arabic Language e-Materials Agreement' signed between France Telecom and the Ministry of Education of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, e-dimension is leading the technical development and integration of the Arabic e-Curriculum project for grades 1 to12 based on the Jordanian curriculum set by MoE. Utilizing modern pedagogical approaches combined with state-of-the-art technology, e-dimension is devoted to elevate the blended learning techniques to shape new guidelines for this method of teaching and learning in the region. The content will be accessible in classrooms by teachers, in their daily lessons, using portable computers and data shows in a manner that facilitates, and ensures delivering the message to the students in an efficient way. The Arabic e-Materials will be deployed initially in Discovery Schools to assess its impact on all target schools.

ElementK / ExecuTrain of Jordan

Being passionate about knowledge and committed to sparking the potential that drives productivity, ElementK and ExecuTrain of Jordan will be offering state-of-the-art online-content that will assist the Jordanian SMEs in developing their human resources to be more competitive, productive and successful. In addition, ElementK & ExecuTrain of Jordan are committed to the contribution of creating an e-learning culture within the Jordanian communities as part of the life long learning track within the Jordan Education Initiative. "Business Skills" and "Desktop Applications Skills" interactive and self-paced training online content will be provided by ElementK and managed and implemented by ExecuTrain of Jordan.



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Fastlink

Fastlink has committed to deliver the science digital interactive e-curricula for grades 1-12. Fastlink will manage the project in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and with the support of the Ministry of ICT. Fastlink will work closely with the related ministries and selected suppliers to deliver an international level e-curriculum. Also, Fastlink would like to set an example for other private sector companies in Jordan and the region by taking the lead and supporting such highly valuable government initiatives, which are imperative to the future development of Jordan. We believe that cooperation between the private and public sectors will enrich know-how, enhance communication and establish solid grounds in the country for building a stronger economy.

France Telecom / Jordan Telecom

France Telecom and Jordan Telecom are committed to supporting development of the education environment in Jordan. In this context and through their support for the Jordan Education Initiative, they will develop an "Arabic as a first language" e-Learning curriculum. Based on the framework of Jordan's existing Arabic curriculum, the new electronically supported curriculum will cover grades 1-12 comprehensively and progressively for delivery in a blended learning approach. The curriculum will initially be deployed in the Discovery Schools to discover its impact and future implications for roll out. France Telecom and Jordan Telecom are delighted that their contribution directly supports the development of efficient public-private models for the acceleration of educational reform in Jordan, and the delivery of education to Jordan's citizens in a process to help the Government of Jordan achieve its vision for education as a catalyst for social and economic development. Looking ahead, the two companies hope to positively influence the unleashing of innovation around the effective use of ICT through telecommunication tools and by expanding the capacity of the local information technology industry in key areas of need.

Global e-Schools and Communities Initiative

The JEI Program Management Office is pleased to recognize Global e-Schools and Communities Initiative as a contributing organization to the JEI.

HP

HP is working on a number of projects with the Jordanian government. Specifically, HP has contributed in the following ways towards the JEI:

- It has defined and delivered the complete requirements for in-classroom technology
- It has allocated US\$ 120,000 worth of the latest HP notebooks and projectors
- CEO Carly Fiorina sent letters to key multinational organizations confirming HP's commitment to the JEI and soliciting their support in an effort to raise additional funds for the initiative
- HP technology solutions experts are working directly with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of ICT to define the most effective architecture for their data centre requirements, which will host the applications and the curriculum used by JEI schools
- It has commissioned a dedicated HP e-learning / e-education consultant to support the JEI and the education requirements of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of ICT



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- At the Annual Meeting 2004, HP donated Davos Companion iPQs to further support the JEI's in-classroom technology workstream.

IBM

IBM's KidSmart Early Learning Programme will bring the dimension of information and communications technology (ICT) to the Kindergarten level. IBM will deliver 150 KidSmart units consisting of a specially designed child-proof housing with an IBM PC and high quality multimedia software in Arabic language. The programme will play an important role in developing teacher skills for integrating ICT into teaching and learning. The KidSmartearlylearning.org website provides a resource for teachers and parents to participate in a global early education network. IBM is supporting the JEI through this US\$ 450,000 contribution to help bridge the digital divide and raise the standard of student achievement in public schools.

Int@j

The role of int@j is to insure that Jordanian ICT companies raise the capacity and acquire the necessary technical and soft skills required to play an essential role in the development and deployment of the Jordan Education Initiative. Int@j has invited as a contribution to the Jordan Education Initiative, 10 principals from Discovery Schools to attend the ICT Forum 2004 at the Dead Sea.

Integrated Technology Group

In its continuous efforts to support educational reform in Jordan, ITG's contribution to the JEI includes EduWave™, technical support and consultation, training and professional development, valued at around JD500,000. As ITG's EduWave is Jordan's official e-Learning Platform, ITG has committed to support JEI by dedicating resources to assist in the effective integration of all related solutions and technologies. ITG's involvement also includes conducting special training sessions and workshops for content development companies to assist them in integrating and deploying their e-content through EduWave. Furthermore, in collaboration with MOE, the World Links program, and Intel's Teach to the Future, ITG has trained over 1,200 teachers on EduWave and its effective application in teaching/learning.

Intel

As an active member of the World Economic Forum, Intel Corporation has been strongly supporting the Jordan Education Initiative since its inception. Intel is committed to the success of this initiative as a global endeavour that will create a strong model of empowering teaching and learning through the effective use of new technology. Through its landmark professional development program, Intel ® Teach to the Future, with more than 2.5 Million teachers trained worldwide including over 25,000 in Jordan, Intel is partnering with the Jordanian Ministry of Education and playing a leading role in the professional development track by training 80% of the Discovery Schools teachers.

The Intel IT Innovation Center has vast experience in technology and content development in the school sector. It has deployed many education solutions worldwide and will be leading the in-



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classroom technology track. In this track, the desired output is to create a detailed roadmap with recommendations to optimally deploy technology and content in the Discovery Schools Jordan. There is also more to come within the next months provided by Intel's global Education initiative "Intel Innovation in Education"

JAID Productions

As a multimedia and e-content development company, JAID Productions is committed to performing its utmost to support education reform in Jordan, through sharing its extensive expertise and those of its international partners in the development of learning content that fits within Jordan's vision and long-term educational strategies. Through its contribution and intended partnership with other international corporations, JAID aims to extend its expertise and build capacity within its operations, allowing for further expansion into other regional and international markets – a vision, which falls completely within Jordan's strategy to become an international hub for providing ICT and e-learning related services and solutions.

Krach Family Foundation

The Krach Family Foundation has offered US\$100,000 to the JEI, with US\$25,000 distributed per year over four years. For the first two years, the contributions will be used to fund NetCorps Jordan interns who will assist teachers in the Discovery Schools with the rollout and ongoing support of classroom technology.

Menhaj Technologies

As a Jordanian company, Menhaj Educational Technologies has been very keen on contributing its extensive experience, resources and efforts into the Jordan Education Initiative. Our activity in the education field has reached 3 million students across the Arab World and counting. We believe our main strength is our expertise and highly qualified, ambitious team of developers, animators, instructional designers and management. The impact of the JEI will be immensely beneficial and long term, introducing drastic reforms in the Jordanian classrooms for both students and educators. Menhaj is enthusiastic about its active role in this change and has managed to supply numerous contributions.

In cooperation with Microsoft International and the MoE, Menhaj is developing an interactive, digitalized ICT curriculum capable of competing with international educational standards. We are extremely determined to provide Jordanian students with the best quality of e-education by ensuring the content, usability, functionality and design of our educational applications meet the needs and requirements of the students. Furthermore, Menhaj will be offering advice and expertise on the content architecture in the e-Curricula Development and Life Long Learning Tracks and introducing the "I love Physics" content on iPAQs in classrooms.

Microsoft

Through Partners in Learning, Microsoft has designed an education programme uniquely to meet the objectives of the Ministry of Education. The programme will focus on developing and implementing ICT curricula in the classroom, teacher training, support of 80 Knowledge Stations



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and a Regional Innovation Centre to test new technologies. As part of a global initiative, Microsoft seeks to build ICT skills for students, educators and school leaders to build a community of students, educators and lifelong learners, who realize their potential through the power of ICT. Partners in Learning will empower schools to significantly raise the level of ICT literacy among their staff, support teachers and schools to develop an internal culture of innovators, work with schools in preparing students for the digital workplace and positively impact the economic health of the country.

Middle East Partnership Initiative

The US State Department / Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) has contributed 3 million dollars to support the development of a dynamic, interactive English-as-a-Foreign-Language online course to be prepared by the Jordanian Ministry of Education, MEPI and its partners and expressly for use by Jordanian students in grades 7-12. In addition, MEPI will support the development of e-content for another subject to be agreed with the MoE. MEPI is a US presidential initiative founded to support economic, political and educational reform efforts in the Middle East and champion opportunity for all people of the region, especially women and youth. The initiative strives to link Arab, US and global private sector businesses, non-governmental organizations, civil society elements and governments together to develop innovative policies and programmes that support reform in the region.

MobileCom

MobileCom is active in providing contributions for the improvement of the socio-economic environment in Jordan. This year, MobileCom has chosen to partner with the Jordan Education

Initiative's Change Management Track. Our contribution entails cash input in addition to one week per month training facilities and trainers. Our main motivation is to promote Jordanian education and support the government initiative to bring about change. Without the support of the administrators and teachers for the initiative, the programme may falter. Therefore the impact is long term. Parents, teachers and administrators need to be convinced that this is a positive change and therefore will benefit all in the long run.

NetCorps Jordan

NetCorps Jordan (NCJ) aims to integrate the practical use of Information & Communication Technology (ICT) into the daily lives of Jordanians by actively engaging Jordan's youth. NCJ's unique approach is to train young graduates and later place them as interns in underserved communities across the Kingdom to guide local communities on how to apply ICT to meet their own needs.

NCJ is partnering with the JEI under the Education theme component where 25 interns undergo technical IT and soft skills training. The interns are then placed in 100 Discovery Schools in Amman to provide technical assistance to the teachers; conduct monthly status assessments and report on the progress of the Discovery Schools; and act as change agents through helping teachers accept and utilize the new technology in class rooms.



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Nortel Networks Kidz Online

Kidz Online proposes to deliver its Shaqa'iq content to Jordan's Discovery schools. This curriculum highlights successful Arab women from Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan encouraging young girls to stay in school and pursue careers. It also emphasizes the importance of male support in creating greater gender equality throughout the Middle East North African Region.

Additionally, Kidz Online is seeking funding to translate approximately 180 technology training videos into Arabic to provide peer to peer training similar to that provided to students, teachers and various organizations throughout the United States, particularly underserved populations. We hope to gain approval to expand efforts to include additional Jordanian schools and Knowledge Training Centers. Future plans include establishing local training and production centers to develop and distribute technology videos and training throughout the region.

Kidz Online, a non-profit organization dedicated to training underserved populations, hopes to help meet the demand for job creation, by helping youth develop employable, marketable skills that will enable them to compete in the global economy. This demands we invest in programs that prepare youth in the technology skills required for competing in the global economy to actively generate new employment opportunities through outsourcing to employees in Jordan and abroad.

North Virginia Technology Council

The JEI Program Management Office is pleased to recognize the US\$15,000 contribution of the North Virginia Technology Council to the JEI.

Pearson

The JEI Program Management Office is pleased to recognize Pearson as a contributing organization to the JEI.

Prisma Advertising

As an expert in social marketing in Jordan, Prisma has supported JEI by organizing the update meeting. This included planning and implementing relevant PR activities namely press releases, media coverage and the preparation of various print materials. Our philosophy in sustaining a fruitful long-term relationship with our clients obliges us to share our knowledge, experience and expertise as needed. As part of our effort to continue to support JEI we are also helping them in their upcoming campaign, which is aimed at forming a better Jordan by focusing on children and their education.

RAZORView

RAZORView is working in partnership with the JEI to provide several services to the JEI PMO, and are co-funding a full-time Program Director, working with the JEI PMO to institutionalize the program and expand the JEI into other counties. RAZORView is also working with McKinsey and Co. on capturing the JEI Public-Private Partnership model and identifying components that are of global relevance to be expanded into other countries. Furthermore, RAZORView worked in partnership with the Dutch consortium of Delft University of Technology and INHOLLAND University to help the JEI team and stakeholders develop and implement a framework for



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continuous assessment of the JEI activities. As a preliminary phase, and as part of its contribution to the JEI, the consortium has partnered with the JEI PMO to map the JEI vision, principles and objectives in order to identify the required strategic actions. The first product of this work was the JEI “Spirit & Practice of Partnership” trifold.

Relief International / Schools Online

RI-SOL is working on a number of projects with the Jordanian government. Specifically related to the JEI are the following:

- Hardware - RI-SOL will continue to provide computers to schools. RI-SOL is considering providing laptops to some teachers
- Teacher Training - Training for teachers will be provided in up to 20 JEI schools. RI-SOL’s Teacher Professional Development programme utilizes the introduction of IT as an opportunity and as a means of empowering teachers by gaining new skills and knowledge for a student-centred and critical-thinking pedagogy.
- Curriculum - RI-SOL have provided the JEI with a proposal to incorporate a civics education curriculum. In its proposal, RI-SOL is offering its “Global Citizenship” curriculum that is a combined media to school-based initiative that prepares today’s international youth for responsible civic participation on the global stage. UCLA and National Geographic Society (NGS) are partners in the project. RI-SOL and NGS have also offered to develop the Geography curriculum in collaboration with Jordanian partners.

Reuters Digital Vision Foundation

To support the JEI, the Reuters Foundation Digital Vision Program at Stanford University is prepared to offer a nine-month DV Fellowship to an outstanding mid-career technologist from Jordan or to an outstanding technologist from a World Economic Forum participating company who wishes to work on technology-based solutions that further the goals of the JEI. The fellowship covers all academic and DV program fees for an academic year. Its value is US\$ 50,000. The Reuters Digital Vision Program is devoted to the furtherance of technology for the social enterprise, and the JEI fits directly into the core of our mission.

Rubicon

Rubicon is a leading Jordanian company in the fields of e-education and CG based animation. Rubicon is co-leading the development of the Mathematics Online e-Curriculum, funded by Cisco Systems and co-lead by Cisco Learning Institute. Rubicon is also the developer for the Science Online e-Curriculum, funded by Fastlink, as well as the co-developer of the English as a Foreign Language funded by MEPI. Rubicon is contributing in a variety of other ways to the JEI to establish a successful model for education reform through a thriving and pro-active public-private partnership, content development, strategy consulting, as well as professional development and administrative training. For Rubicon, this represents a unique opportunity to fulfil its vision of positively contributing to the reform of education in Jordan, as well as building its capacity and being able to offer additional employment opportunities to Jordanian graduates. Rubicon also intends to build and foster long-term, mutually beneficial relationships with international partners.



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Siemens

The JEI Program Management Office is pleased to recognize Siemens as a contributing organization to the JEI.

Skillsoft

The JEI Program Management Office is pleased to recognize Skillsoft as a contributing organization to the JEI.

STS

The role of STS was emphasized through conducting an assessment for the current network infrastructure and security of Queen Rania Center and presenting recommendations to enhance efficiency & better utilization for the existing network. STS is a leading enterprise level hardware, software services and solutions provider in several countries across the MENA region, besides offering specialized e-government and e-banking solutions. Empowered by a professional force of 190+ qualified and highly skilled employees, and partnerships with industry leading companies like Microsoft, Dell, Sun, IBM, Cisco and Hypercom, STS Group continues to grow and expand its business.

Sun Microsystems

The JEI Program Management Office is pleased to recognize Sun Microsystems as a contributing organization to the JEI.

Syntax

Syntax will help JEI design and develop the JEI Web presence. Starting with an informational website that acts as an information resource for stakeholders, the media and other interested parties, the site's strategy will take into consideration JEI website's evolution into a fully interactive, collaborative environment for everyone involved in this project.

Talal Abu Ghazaleh and Company

Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & Co International is committed to providing special IT literacy training to teachers within the Ministry of Education, as well as translation support for teacher training programs. TAGI is committed to providing project management assistance to different components of the Initiative as well as consulting services.

UNIFEM

UNIFEM is developing innovative capacity building programs aimed at introducing, promoting and institutionalizing gender in the Ministry of Education and the Discovery Schools. It is also engaging



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the UNIFEM/Cisco Networking Academy graduates in monitoring and assessing the readiness of the Discovery Schools, as well as linking the e-Village through the inclusion of Lib school to the Discovery Schools. Underlying this role is UNIFEM'S vision of the JEI as a pioneering pilot project, working to introduce ICT to education through a ground-breaking formula. UNIFEM has committed to playing a key role in making this formula work, by taking charge of blending-in the gender component on the mental and institutional levels. Underlying UNIFEM's role in the JEI is its continued effort to securing equal opportunity for both sexes, in the interest of justice, human rights, and sustainable development.

United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

As part of its overall goal to promote digital readiness in Jordan, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has allocated \$7 million to support the Jordan Education Initiative. As a pioneering supporter of JEI, USAID has already assisted in the rapid connection of Discovery Schools to broadband internet, provided cutting-edge equipment for schools, and initiated assessments and pilot programs aimed at identifying "best practices" for IT-based learning. In USAID's next phase of assistance, support will be provided to acquire ICT equipment for Discovery Schools, expand gender mainstreaming throughout the JEI program, and promote sustainability of JEI operations in Jordan. USAID's support for JEI complements on-going assistance to the Government of Jordan's Education Reform for the Knowledge Economy (ERfKE) program.

World Links

World Links Arab Region (WLAR), the Arab holding of World Links, launched its first pilot program in Jordan late in 2003 which sought to train 400 teachers in 100 schools throughout the country. During the year and a half, WLAR in fact trained 520 teachers in all four phases of World Links materials in over 150 schools including 100 teachers from 20 Discovery schools, igniting the request from the Minister of Education to expand the program to double its scale. The Jordan Expansion program was launched in February 2005 and is working to train 1,000 teachers in 300 schools throughout the Kingdom including more than 200 teachers from around 40 discovery schools.

Further, upon the request of the Minister of Education, WLAR had also led in the development of the training materials aimed to integrate the Ministry of Education's first intranet portal EduWave into classroom activities. World Links' teacher professional development including EduWave training has been accredited by the Ministry to the "first teacher's" rank. By the end of the Expansion Plan, the WLAR program would have reached over 300,000 students in Jordan, equipping them with the necessary skills for this age of globalization.

The WLAR program is more than just training; it brings students and teachers into a family of learning. The goal of WLAR is to provide schools and teachers with sustainable solutions for mobilizing the necessary technologies, skills, and educational resources to prepare students and teachers to enter the "information age" and to participate successfully in the global knowledge-based economy.



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Young Entrepreneurs Association / Jordan

The Young Entrepreneurs Association has agreed to champion the Life Long Learning Aspect of the Jordan Education Initiative. YEA will work with DHL to set terms of reference for a study to detect the needs of SMEs in Jordan (e.g. training, mentoring, etc). YEA will execute or facilitate the execution of a learning portal that will focus on meeting the needs of Entrepreneurs and SMEs.