

“TOWARDS STRONGER ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN JORDAN”

This project is funded by European Union



EuroMed Feminist Initiative
المبادرة النسوية الأوروبية
Initiative Féministe EuroMed

Towards Stronger Economic Participation of Women in Jordan Successes, Challenges, Best-practices, Solutions, and Next Steps

Amman – December 13, 2022

Under the patronage of H.E. Ms. Wafa Bani Mustafa, EuroMed Feminist Initiative in partnership with Business Development Center (BDC) and Tamkeen for legal aid and human rights and in cooperation with SADAQA held a coordination meeting in the frame of the project “Towards Stronger Economic Participation of Women in Jordan” funded by the European Union (EU).

During the meeting, Ms. Boriana Jonsson, the Executive Director of EuroMed Feminist Initiative, emphasized “EuroMed Feminist Initiative affirms its support for the implementation of the Gendered Strategy of the Economic Modernization Vision through enhancing women’s access to labour market and increasing their participation in all places and spheres of decision-making.”

H.E. Maria Hadjitheodosiou, the EU Ambassador to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, stated “This collaboration between the civil society and the government shows how much progress has been achieved. We need to find out the best practices that would make Jordan's Economic Vision within the modernization process happen. We stand ready to contribute by bringing lessons learned from our expertise and experiences that aimed to remove the obstacles to women’s economic participation.”

H.E. Wafa Bani Mustafa, Minister of Social Development and Head of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Women Empowerment, underlined that “Women make up only 14% of the total workforce in Jordan, and this percentage is a significant loss of productivity for the capabilities, skills and competencies of women. Therefore, the Women's Strategy was launched within the Economic Modernization Vision, which includes gender-sensitive sectoral initiatives to increase women's employment opportunities.” She also added “The EuroMed Feminist Initiative did not hesitate to support these efforts towards achieving continuous and sustainable progress in women's issues.”

H.E. Wajih Azaizeh, the Jordanian Minister of Political and Parliamentary Affairs, stated “Increasing the percentage of women’s participation in the public sphere and at all levels; politically, economically, and administratively, is a supreme national Jordanian interest. We must join hands to remove obstacles to women's participation and create supportive work environments for women.”

The meeting was attended by over 25 representatives from different entities and ministries in Jordan including the Ministry of Social Development, the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Local Administration, the Ministry of Labour, the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Women Empowerment, the Jordanian National Commission for Women, and the Jordanian Senate.

The meeting aimed to improve the coordination, collaboration, and engagement with national and local stakeholders and institutions. The discussions conducted within the meeting revolved around the progress and challenges of the project implementation as well as the solutions and best practices that contribute to a stronger economic participation of women in Jordan.

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The attendees agreed on the importance of creating more opportunities in improving knowledge and capacity building as well as building new partnerships and expanding their scope of work. The meeting resulted in recommending the dissemination and implementation of successful models in addition to focusing on measuring the impact of the implemented and future projects.

EuroMed Feminist Initiative with consortium BDC and Tamkeen and the strategic partner SADAQA are continuously working through cooperation with the relevant national institutions in Jordan to promote a social, cultural, and professional supportive environment of women's work, in addition, to equipping Jordanian and Syrian women with specialized skills and providing them with employment opportunities.