



Project Name and Approximate Project Value: Building and Extending Skills Training Systems (BEST) Project \$6 million		Country: Jordan
Project Location Within Country: Amman and all governates		Professional Staff Provided: No. Of Staff: 12 Canadian Person-Months: 400 Local Person Months: 290
Client: Ministry of Labour (MOL), Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan		
Start Date: March 2008	Completion Date March 2012	Approx. Value of Services: Fees: \$ 3,200,000 Reimbursable Expenses: \$ 1,800,000 In-Kind Contributions: \$ 1,000,000
Associated Firm:		Professional Staff Person-Months Provided by Associated Firms:
Senior/Key Staff Involved and Functions Performed: David Harvey, Project Director, Hussein Amery, A/Project Manager/Result Based Management Specialist, Maria Schnurr, Senior Training Planning Specialist/ Gender Equality Specialist		
Detailed Narrative Description of Project: The Building and Extending Skills Training Systems (BEST) project seeks to build on current and past CIDA involvement in the sector by supporting the Ministry of Labor (MOL) in addressing Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) system reform needs and underpinning its ability to effect change. The initiative seeks to enhance already existing strategic Canadian leadership in the human resources development and capacity building areas in Jordan coordinating CIDA's investment closely with current and planned donor investments in the TVET sector, such as the World Bank, the European Union and JICA, USAID and , the ILO. Strategic interventions will be made in policy, planning, coordination and information management at the Ministry of Labor, in training needs assessment capacity, building content, instructional capacity in vocational training, improved interaction and mobilization of Employers in the planning and delivery of skills upgrading and in improved financing opportunities through improved awareness and institutional development and operation of the Training and Employment Fund (TEF). <u>Goal</u> : To assist the Government of Jordan (GoJ) in its efforts to reform the TVET system to be more responsive to the changing socio-economic environment <u>Purpose</u> :To enhance the GoJ's institutions' capacity to identify and respond to changing labour market demands, based principally on employer and private sector needs. <u>Expected Results</u> Expected Impact: (1) Strengthened Human Resource Development system supported by a reformed, employer driven TVET sector. Expected Outcomes: (1) Improved Ministry of Labor coordination, policy and strategic planning capacity in TVET sector. (2) Increased employment/ self-employment opportunities for female and male graduates in key and emerging sectors. <i>Project Components:</i> The project involves three components (1) MoL Capacity Building through Provision of Strategic Technical Assistance and Training (2) Institutional Development of Training Providers (3) Support for the Employer Driven Funding Mechanism (Training and Employment Fund), as well as a (4) Project Management component.		

The project will be delivered through the provision of strategic Canadian long term technical advisors, short term technical assistance, training, and engagement of local professionals. It is expected that the project will directly contribute to an improved TVET system, providing increased employment opportunities for youth and women, upgraded engagement of the private sector in HRD, enhanced financing for employer-identified training needs and continuing education programs.

The BEST project proposes to focus its efforts to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the MoL. Much stronger links need to be forged with the private sector – particularly SMEs. Employment and self-employment of graduates need to be better tracked and labour market opportunities better promoted to Jordanian youth. The proposed reforms need to be elaborated aligned with the overall TVET reform system.

Expected Benefits to Jordan:

The Project will allow Jordan to respond with increased competency and efficiency to industries’ needs as well as contribute to the development of an educated workforce necessary to support transitional economies. The project will improve not only the skills of the country’s economically active segment of the labour force but also the capacity of unemployed and out-of-school youth and adults to seek livelihood through better skills development. This will in turn contribute to a reduction in overall unemployment and provide the region with a more skilled and productive labour force in support of the Government’s economic transition efforts. Remote populations will benefit directly from the project. The immediate beneficiaries of investments will include an undetermined number of participants who will be able to enrol in training programs and adult learners who will have access to market-relevant training program. Educators and the relevant government ministries who will develop relevant curriculum, instructional materials, and skills training facilities and technologies will also benefit from the project.

The project will further Jordan’s efforts to develop a demand driven training system, offset poverty and addressing unemployment issues, particularly in women, by ensuring that programs are focused on employers needs and that graduates have the necessary skills to prepare them for the workforce. In the long term it is hoped this will contribute to improved economic productivity.

Detailed Description of Services Provided:

SIAST provides project management and administrative services facilitating the delivery of project services in close cooperation with its Jordanian partners in the Ministry of Labor and the Training and Employment Fund. IDEA supports SIAST in a number of roles.

SIAST is responsible for designing, developing and managing project activities under the guidance of the Project Director. SIAST provides Canadian leadership, demonstrating a proven management model of operating as the principal source of post-secondary education in the Province of Saskatchewan. SIAST is the primary source of Canadian technical expertise, bridging the vision and operating model for the project with delivery capacity and organization of in-Canada study tours and training programs. SIAST will provide leadership throughout the project in Policy Development, Strategic Planning, Teacher Training and Fund Management. The project underpinned by the principal of Gender Equality, and the transfer of knowledge and technology through technical assistance training.

Funding Agency: Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST)

Firm: IDEA