

The Promising Futures Project

Exploitative child labor is a phenomenon of growing concern in Jordan. It affects children's right to education and is harmful to their physical, mental, moral and social development. Save the Children, along with JOHUD through its Social Support Centre and Youth Build International, is implementing a project to support national efforts to combat child labor in Jordan.

The project, which runs until June 2014, focuses both on preventing and withdrawing children from child labor



through education services, and on strengthening the economic basis of the families of child laborers by means of livelihoods services. The project thus addresses the two root causes of child labor: poverty and issues in the education system, both causing children to drop out of school and prematurely enter the labor market. To make interventions sustainable the project builds on existing services and works in close collaboration with national stakeholders.

Key Interventions

- The project provides direct services to working children and school drop outs through the Social Support Center (SSC) in Marka, a model which will be replicated in three other areas (Zarqa, Mafraq and Ma'an). After initial counseling, the children are reinserted into public school or offered a non-formal education program acknowledged by the Ministry of Education. Upon completion of the program the students are eligible to enroll in vocational skills training courses and obtain an accredited certificate in their field of study, enabling them to become productive citizens.
- The project seeks to strengthen the economic basis of the families of child laborers by providing vocational and financial literacy training and by linking the families to existing financial and employment services.
- The SSC works in close collaboration with community and governorate level child protection committees, through which citizens and professionals actively engage in combating child labor. The committees assist in identifying vulnerable households and working children, providing awareness raising sessions, and linking individuals to existing training and economic strengthening services. They are linked with the National Steering Committee on child labor, to ensure a sustainable connection with the policy level and the Child Labor Unit at the Ministry of Labor.
- The project applies tested approaches such as Child to Child, School to Career and Life Skills through Sports to enhance the learning environment at public schools. School based Child Labor Monitoring Committees help to prevent children from dropping out. With the VTC the project works to strengthen on-the-job training for skills training students through student-defined projects to improve the physical infrastructure at public schools.

Objectives

1. Reducing exploitative child labor and providing services to promote education and sustainable livelihoods
2. Strengthening policies and capacity on child labor, education, and sustainable livelihoods
3. Raising awareness on exploitative child labor, its root causes, and the importance of education



الصندوق الأردني الهاشمي للتنمية البشرية
The Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development