



WEEK OF COMPASSION SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT REPORT

For Global Ministries

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SECTION 1: Basic Information

Area Office	Global Ministries Middle East & Europe Office
Date of Proposal Submission	Fall 2018
Project Title	“Religion and State – Middle East” Phase IV: 2017 - 2019
Project Period	Ongoing
Name of Local Partner	DIYAR Consortium
Location- City/State/Country	Project is region-wide (Middle East), but it is based in Bethlehem, Palestine
Total Amount Received from WoC	\$13,000
Person Completing Report	Written by Diyar Consortium and prepared by Global Ministries Resource Development

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SECTION 2: Project Summary

Project Goal

Referring back to your original proposal, what is the overall goal of the project? If your plans have changed from the original proposal, please describe.

- To train young women and men for advocacy while encouraging and training them for creative initiatives toward self-development;
- To specify concrete measures by which to strengthen a sense of belonging, integration and effective citizen participation in the homeland.

Primary Activities Implemented

Describe administrative and programmatic activities implemented in your request for funding.

To date, two significant events were carried out in 2019:

1. An Evaluation and Planning meeting was held near Amman, Jordan, on the weekend of January 3 to 5, by the Executive Committee of the “Religion & State – Middle East” Program.
2. One training event for women and youth/young adults (university graduates, young career professionals) was held in Amman, Jordan, on May 4, on “**Diversity and Inclusion.**” This included sessions on Definitions, Religious Pluralism and Equality in Citizenship, Toward Inclusiveness in Gender Justice. The workshops were led by three highly qualified trainers, with ample time for small-group discussion, dialogue and reporting back. This workshop combined participating youth and women from Jordan and Palestine.

As planned for 2019, Muslim participants were included in this workshop, named “The Christian Academic Forum for Citizenship in the Arab World [CAFCAW]”

Two more workshops are being organized for this fall, one to be held in Egypt, the other in Lebanon. Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, and Palestine are the major countries of focus for this project. As much as the political situation allows, the Diyar Consortium invites participants from Syria and Iraq.

Challenges and Actions Steps Taken to Resolve

Summarize what organizational and environmental (political, social, infrastructural, etc.) challenges arose during this past year that hindered the project achievement of its goals. Also, include how the project/program addressed them.

Overall, the project has proceeded unhindered. The Middle East is a politically turbulent region and is one where the complexity of relations between religion and state, on the one hand, and community relations between people of different faiths is often in tension. Invariably, these are ongoing challenges. The Diyar Consortium seeks to address these challenges systematically through this project, based on verifiable research, by examining how shared religious values can offer solutions rather than religion becoming part of the problem.

Regarding challenges experienced this year, freedom of movement is often restricted or inhibited. Through a lengthy process of arranging and rearranging workshop schedules, the Diyar Consortium has been able to achieve a measure of success for these events. This was evident in the high number of participants as well as being able to obtain workshop trainers.

SECTION 3: Project Results

Client/Participant Success Story or Details of a Program Achievement

Please share a client success story or a program achievement from this project. The success story or the program achievement should be related to program activities implemented and should convey the need or impact of the project. If using a client/participant success story, please keep client confidentiality in mind. If available, include pictures as attachments to your report.

This year, the Diyar Consortium allowed time during the workshop for sharing participants' responses to the quality, relevance, and adaptability of content, methodology, and application in the context of their environment. Several participants wrote out their testimonials to express how these workshops have been helpful and how they gained new insights.

Short and Long Term Results

Realistically link program activities to the difference they are making. Describe how the project's activities are making a difference in the short and long-term for both the client and the community.

As reported in previous years, short term results showed clear evidence of renewed energy, enthusiasm, commitment, and hope toward social inclusion. Long term, the Diyar Consortium is gaining cumulative knowledge and understanding of local contexts. Participants continue to share a desire to meet the challenges faced by vulnerable communities in order to elevate the quality of citizenship participation in society.

Best Practices:

Please Identify and Describe processes or practices that you implemented in this project that were successful, and that you recommend for use in similar situations.

Our commitment to best practices is evident through:

- Clearly identifying issues and challenges;
- Intentionally inviting new participants as well as repeat attendees
- Encouraging freedom of expression in interactive discussion
- Finding qualified trainers for the identified issues
- Encouraging and supporting initiative-taking by the youth

Quantitative Results

Provide “numeric indicators” of your work in serving people and implementing project activities.

PEOPLE Served <i>Avoid Duplicate Counts between Categories</i>	# of People Served	Comments or Description
Women <i>age 18+</i>	Twelve from Jordan, Four from Palestine	targeted age group
Men <i>age 18+</i>	Ten from Jordan; One from Palestine	targeted age group
Youth <i>age 13-18</i>	N/A	
Children <i>age 0-13</i>	N/A	
Families/Households	N/A	
Disabled		
Other: <i>specify such as employed, unemployed, immigrants, etc.</i>		Most are employed; a few are current graduate students

SECTION 4: Financial Management

Required Attachment: How was funding used?

Provide a financial report of how gifts were put to use in support of your project. A template for this financial report is attached for your reference. Any report that does not follow this template will not be considered a completed report and not eligible for applying for WOC Sustainable Development grant.

Please review the included financial report.

If expenses differ from the original proposal, please explain variances here:

Budgeted funds will be spent to cover the remaining two workshops (one in Lebanon and one in Egypt) scheduled for the Fall 2019.

Photos from the 2019 Religion and State workshop in Jordan

