Jordan III Trust Fund is a capacity building project to develop service women in Jordanian Armed Forces (JAF). The project aims at supporting JAF to attain a 3% female officer representation and provide women with wider career opportunities. The Trust Fund serves as a strong advocate to Mediterranean Dialogue (MD) partners and other regional actors developing servicewomen and their roles in peace and the security sector.

The JAF has developed a Military Women’s Strategy for 2006-2016 that aims to capacity-build through the recruitment and training of more women in JAF and subsequently creating wider employment and participation opportunities. The strategy aligns with NATO/EAPC policy for implementing UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. Progress has been stalled by the limits of the training centre. The Jordan III Trust Fund will support JAF through three initiatives over a 54 month period:

1. **Supporting the Action Plan.** The Trust Fund will support the Department of Military Women’s Affairs in implementing the approved Action Plan. It has established a qualified and experienced part time NATO Gender Advisor to aid JAF in concepts and policies.

2. **Enhancing Training Centre Infrastructure.** The Military Women’s Training Centre provides all women with training in core basic military skills and leadership. The current centre is in poor condition. Enhancements to the infrastructure will allow a 25% increased training throughput to 550 students yearly, with modernized instructional and teaching facilities and improved living standards.

3. **Enhancing Education and Training.** Education and Training is the means to deliver and effect change. An analysis of JAF officers’ courses will be followed by the design and integration of amendments, commencing with gender awareness, into courses and programmes for both women and men officers. Appropriate new courses will be developed to support change and promote wider regional cooperation.

**Milestones**

- April 2017 JAF approved and issued the Action Plan
- November 2018 JAF deliver pilot Gender Course
- December 2018 construction 39% complete on 12% target

**Financial information**

- Project Budget 4.1 MEUR 100% funded
- Project supported by DCB Trust Fund contribution
Package 1 – Action Plan

The new Action Plan was approved and issued by JAF in April 2017 including implementation where resources permit. The Action Plan was coordinated in development with the Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW) and is integral to the Jordan National Action Plan (JONAP). In 2018, the project sponsored JNCW to complete similar gender assessment reviews of the Women’s Police Department, Civil Defence and Gendarmerie. A summary of security sector recommendations is now available and also matched to the JONAP.

Package 2 – Women’s Training Centre Infrastructure (under construction)

The centre provides all service women with training in core basic military skills and leadership. Established as the Women’s Wing at the Royal Military Academy in 1989, the infrastructure dates from 1950 to 1980 with large parts in poor condition and some condemned. The current student capacity is limited to 300-400 and restricted further for safety of care reasons. Through rebuilding, the project will improve the accommodation, dining and training facilities to:

- Accommodate 550 students yearly.
- Improve basic living standard for recruits, students and staff.
- Improve and modernize instructional and teaching facilities.
- Provide and promote a standard attractive to international students.
- Honour the strategic vision of HRH Princess Aisha.
- Re-set the Spiritual Home of JAF Servicewomen.

A rebuild will enable a 25% increased annual output of trained servicewomen accommodating up to 130 students on long courses of 16 weeks and 30 senior or international students for 2-8 weeks at one time. A new headquarters and administrative offices, additional capacity in classrooms and large lecture theatre will be provided alongside modern self-contained accommodation and dining blocks.

Package 3-Enhancing Education and Training

The Trust Fund has over 3 years supported the training of selected JAF officers in gender perspectives. The part time NATO GA will assist JAF and these officers to design the first Arabic GA course in 2018. The part time NATO GA has supported JAF to deliver the first Arabic gender training in November and December 2018. This will be in cooperation with JNCW and coordinated with UN Women Office Jordan. Gender perspectives for Commanders and men’s training shall also be designed. In 2019, JAF will be supported to host a regional seminar for Women in Uniform and to promote a regional Arabic GA course.

Courses shall be commenced in 2019 to provide basic instructional techniques training and to establish courses at the centre for female NCO and officer instructors. In addition support will be given to enhance the Quality Assurance of training.

For further information
Mr Graham Brooks
Graham.brooks@nspa.nato.int