

**The National Center for Research
and Development (NCRD) as a
Center of Excellence for EU-Jordan
S&T Cooperation: Towards Jordan's
Integration into ERA**

(J-ERA) Center

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Project Goals

- To provide training to NCRD staff and researchers to build capacities in EU project management.
- To strengthen links between research teams of NERC and their EU counterparts.
- To initiate joint R&D initiatives in the area of renewable energy through partnering events and facilitating mobility of researchers.

Project Goals

- To enhance firm sustainable implementation of the enhanced capacities at NCRD.
- To promote the centre's international competitiveness and its response to socio-economic challenges.
- To enhance the institutional development strategy.
- Positioning NCRD as a Centre of Excellence for EU-Jordan RTD cooperation.

Partners & Main Roles

National Center for Research and Development – Jordan (Coordinator):

- Overall project coordinator and main beneficiary
- Plays a key role in all project activities.
- Leads four work packages:
 - Strategic actions for competitiveness
 - Physical and structural capacity building
 - Visibility Actions
 - project management and monitoring
- Participates in all activities that require considerable staff effort and mobility budget.

Partners & Main Roles

University of Alicante – Spain (UA):

- Supports NCRD in overall project coordination.
- Responsible for project website and management tools.
- Supports in analysis and strategy development.
- Plays a key role in preparation of networking events.
- Monitors and facilitates the project

Partners & Main Roles

University of Applied Sciences Technikum

Vienna – Austria (UASTV):

- Crucial twinning partner for NCRD.
- Responsible for main networking and dissemination.
- Partner for NCRD inclusion in the EU RE research landscape.
- Responsible for coordination of two major networking events
- Responsible for development of joint projects and FP application
- Provides support and coaching within other activities.

Partners & Main Roles

University of Murcia – Spain (UMU):

- Actively participates in work package: Human Resource Capacity building at multiple levels.
- Provides input for science related training.
- Hosts NCRD research initiatives.
- Disseminates and actively participates in networking events.
- Coordinates monitoring and quality control measures.

Overall Strategy of the Work Plan

WP1 Strategic Actions for Competitiveness:

Goal:

To create the knowledge base and strategy fundamentals for all subsequent WPs. The **overall goal** is to increase national and international competitiveness of NCRD based on socio-economic needs.

Description:

An interdisciplinary working group will be set up and responsible for:

- In-depth analysis of SWOT for R&D cooperation, training needs, and socio-economic environment
- Enhancement of the institutional development strategy via introducing specific action plans for HR development, competitiveness, visibility, internationalisation and IPR.

Overall strategy of the Work Plan

WP2 Human Resource Capacity Building at Multiple Levels:

Goal:

To build competences of NCRD staff and researchers for enhanced participation in FP7.

Description:

Based on the training needs identified in WP1, modules targeted at different groups will be developed and implemented in a training for trainers approach.

Overall Strategy of the Work Plan

WP3 Physical and Structural Capacity Building:

Description:

An R&D cooperation unit will be created at NCRD to:

- Monitor and disseminate EU funding opportunities
- Promote participation in EU projects, assist in proposal drafting and project management.
- Other measures : Databases & website upgrading.

Overall Strategy for the Work Plan

WP4 International Networking & Cooperation:

Goal:

To enhance NCRDs (and Jordan's) visibility in EU.

Description:

- Creation of a network of contacts, and initiation of joint R&D projects and programmes.
- Identification of R &D cooperation opportunities and selection of best ideas
- Short-term visits by researchers to EU counterparts in order to benefit from travel grants and to further develop the ideas.

Overall Strategy for the Work Plan

WP5 Visibility Actions (National & Regional):

Goal:

To increase the scope and visibility of the action and position NCRD as the Centre of Excellence in EU-Jordan R&D cooperation.

Description:

- Internal dissemination actions at NCRD will help to combat resistance to change, and facilitate internal cooperation.
- Two national seminars and info-events will be organized and supported by a targeted dissemination strategy and materials (leaflets, posters, etc).
- Round-tables with industry will enhance NCRD's relevance in the socio-economic environment and lead to priority lines for enhancing research-to-market links

Overall Strategy for the Work Plan

WP6 Project Management and Monitoring:

Goals:

- To ensure the successful implementation of the project.
- To attain the expected outputs in time and within the budget.

Description:

Monitoring and Quality control measures (with external feedback mechanisms).