

Activity Reporting

No and Title of Activity (refer to application):

Reported by: Hala Abu Ghazaleh

Reported when: 26/12/2014

20-25 December 2014

Title of the activity:

workshops on party organization, internal democratic structures and communications

Place and Date Completed:

Jerusalem Hotel 20-25 December 2014

Name, brief description of experts involved and evaluation of work:

The trainer: Dr. Hassan Tariq from Morocco, Member of the parliament and research. Professor on AL Hasan the first University

The trainer: Mr. Oraib AlRantawi the director of the Al-Quds Center For Political Studies

The workshop was very successful; the participants indicated that among the positive aspects of the training workshop is that it availed them of the opportunity to become acquainted with the experiences and knowledge of political parties on party organization, internal democratic structures and communications. The participants also unanimously agreed that this workshop presented an opportunity for encounter and interaction with the representatives of the other parties and was characterized by a high standard of training. The political parties emphasized the necessity of completing the training program.

Description of Activity:

The objective of the outreach and program development Workshops is to help parties acquire substantive knowledge in the basics of the organization and functioning of political parties, to learn how to function as multipliers within their parties to ensure the trigger down of improvement of political party work on the local level.

Three groups of party cadres and activists participated in the 6-day training workshop. The number of participants who attended the training was (139) participants from (28) political parties out of a total of (34) political parties. It must be pointed out that the reasons for not attending the training workshop by some parties were the following:

The Democratic Popular Unity Party did not participate because it rejects the idea of foreign funding.

The Communist Party, Al Shahama (Magnanimity) Party, and the Arab Party were in favor of participating, but they were late in nominating the participants. Whereas, there were difficulties in communicating with the National Constitutional Party and the National Action Front.

Regarding the participation of the political parties, several parties who were not able to participate in the first session of this training program were very keen to attend the second session, including the Stronger Jordan Party and Al Ansar (Supporters) Party.

The number of male and female participants reached (90) and (49) participants, respectively; more than one-third of the participants were women. On the other hand, the

participants represented various partisan streams; (29) participants were from the Islamic Movement, (15) participants were from the nationalists and leftists, and (95) participants were from the centrist parties.

The training sessions were used fully by the trainers Mr. Oraib AlRintawi Director of the Jerusalem Center for Political Studies, and Dr. Hassan Tariq, member of the Moroccan House of Representatives and a Professor of legal, economic and social sciences at the University of Hassan I University.

Observation

1. The second session of the training program attracted a large turnout of the political parties. This was readily apparent in the enthusiasm of the parties that did not participate in the first session of the training to participate in the second session, in addition to the remarkable increase in the number of participants, which reached 139 participants.
2. The training workshop progressed smoothly and easily despite the participation of a diversity of the political parties and the various affiliations of the participants.
3. The political parties felt that this training workshop was of great benefit as it provided an opportunity for their delegates to learn more about the internal bylaws of their parties, as well as of the other parties, and to make use of it.
4. The training workshop was an opportunity for the delegates of the political parties to interact and communicate with each other. In addition, the participants emphasized the need to continue this training program because of its role in highlighting the major issues in party work.
5. The number of participating women remarkably increased, as they accounted for about one-third of the participants. However, despite this increase, the participation of men made up the vast majority because they hold leadership positions in the political parties. Many of the party leaders were keen to participate. Women participation raises the importance of organizing a series of training workshops exclusively for women in the coming period of activities through Activity 15.
6. In view of the change in activity No. 8, which came about at the request of the political parties, who have expressed their interest in training on the electoral laws and their details in terms of how to win and the types of electoral systems, we were keen when implementing activity No. 10 to include all of the topics contained in activity No. 8. We will continue the same for activity No. 17, as well as to ensure the empowerment of a large number of trainees for training in their parties (TOT).
7. The participants pointed out that one of the positive points that were provided during the training workshop is that it gave them the opportunity to get to know more clearly the standards of internal democracy; and to better understand the provisions and the articles that should be included in the Party's bylaw that regulate working within the party. In addition, the participants were introduced to the Moroccan experience in party work.
8. This training workshop gathered a large number of participants for the first time, to learn about the inner life styles, levels of democracy, and forms of internal communication among a large number of political parties.
9. Several leaders of the political parties were keen to attend the training workshop in order to look closely into the progress of and the participation of their representatives. Among those was MP Samir Oweis, Secretary General of the Arab Democratic Movement (under establishment), Mr. Abdelfattah Nsour, Secretary General of the Social Justice Party, and Mr. Awni Al Rjoub, the Secretary General of Al Ansar Party.

Remarks

1. The levels of the participants varied with the various levels of experience of the political parties; the interaction of the representatives of newly established parties was less than that of the representatives of other parties.
2. Many of the comments made by the participants included direct or indirect criticism of their parties, in particular the weak points regarding the internal democratic life of the parties. These comments were made after learning about the best practices and standards

in this area.

3. The training workshop, through the group exercises, revealed that there is a significant weakness on the part of political parties' representatives in communicating with their party leaders and learning more about their parties' literature.

4. The Moroccan experience gained great interest from the participants as it is very diversified and rich and because of the great similarity between the Jordanian and Moroccan political systems.

5. It was obvious that the participants were able to detect the weaknesses in the internal life of their parties and the lack of open communication and interaction channels between the leadership and the base. In addition, it was very clear that the representation of both youth and women in leadership settings was weak.

6. For the first time, we were able to sense the willingness of the participants to work on the development of the internal systems of their parties when the opportunity presents itself.

Challenges and Modifications:

(please elaborate on the problems -including delay, cancellation, postponement of activities - which have arisen and how they have been addressed)

One of the difficulties we encountered was the variety of the participating party currents and the divergence of the authorities of the participants.

Results:

(please quantify these results, where possible; refer to the various assumptions of the Logframe)

This Activity will enhance the Capacity of Political parties on a technical organization, communication, coalition building as well as on a political level (good governance, civic rights, environmental sustainability, and gender).

Where applicable, outline any links and synergies you have developed with other actions or stakeholders and/or state authorities:

Opening channels of communications between Konrad Adenauer Stiftung and various Political parties.

Which visibility activities have accompanied the activity?

Project rollups, Folders, Pens, Podium banner.