



## Women Helping Women *Jordanian Women's Election Network*

For more information on the WHW Network and to become a member or supporter, please contact ND's offices in Amman:

P.O. Box 851219 Amman 11185 Jordan  
Telephone: + 962-6- 4612527  
Fax: +962 - 6- 4612571  
Email: whw@batelco.jo

# women helping women



## MISSION



**Women Helping Women (WHW) : the Jordanian Women's Election Network** is the first initiative of its kind, dedicated to supporting women's candidacy for elected office. Members of the network are individuals who are committed to recruiting, supporting and funding viable women candidates; helping them build and run effective campaigns; training the next generation of political activists and mobilizing voters to help elect women candidates across Jordan.

The Network aims at raising awareness of the importance of women's political participation and enhancing the capacity of Jordanian organizations to serve as support and resource groups for politically active women. The Network was launched in November 2006 by the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI), and is governed by an Executive Committee comprising leading Jordanian women leaders in such sectors as business, politics, media, academics, and law. The Executive Committee provides overall support and guidance to the Network and its members.

## PARTNERS

The WHW Network maintains strong partnerships with Jordanian women's organizations, parliamentarians, members of municipal councils, political parties, community leaders, youth, volunteers and activists who enjoy diverse expertise within their own fields and contribute to the mission and success of the Network. The Network is also supported by an NGO Coordination Committee with representatives of the following organizations:

- The Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW)
- The Jordanian National Forum for Women (JNFW)
- The General Federation for Jordanian Women (GFJW)
- Queen Zein Al Sharaf Institute for Development (ZENID)
- Women International Network of Metropolis / Regional Office – Jordan
- The Arab Women's Media Center (AWMC)
- The Arab Women's Legal Network (AWLN)
- The Family Guidance & Awareness Center – Zarqa
- The Women Studies Center at the University of Jordan
- The Network welcomes the participation of other interested organizations in the Coordination Committee.

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## STRUCTURE

The WHW Network operates through its six specialized units, each with a pool of active women members, volunteering to achieve the Network's main objective: supporting women's political participation.

**The Research and Knowledge Management Unit** serves as a central repository of up-to-date public opinion research that provides a rich resource for women in elected office. The unit tracks, surveys, and compiles regular research conducted by local and international entities in Jordan and classifies the information in a format that is easily accessible and understood.

**The Training and Consultations Unit** organizes issue-based training modules for Network members, activists, parliamentarians, municipal council members and former women candidates who wish to run again for parliamentary or municipal office. The unit also draws on its rich pool of legal experts to provide regular consultative support to women in elected positions on relevant and current issues and legislation. In addition to relying on qualified WHW members, the unit also manages a database of impressive local experts and trainers who deliver the training and consultations.

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## STRUCTURE

**The Membership and Outreach Unit** invites membership through conducting regular outreach visits to all 12 governorates and reaching out to women in all sectors of society. The unit also cooperates with the WHW Network's partners and committees to capitalize on their contacts and local branches in membership development.

**The Media and Communications Unit** publishes a regular newsletter that features local and regional news on women's political participation, profiles Jordanian women in public office, discusses challenges to women's political empowerment and presents useful resources and tools. Additionally, the unit develops promotional materials on women's political participation and collaborates with various media outlets through the WHW Network's team of local journalists and media consultants.

**The Public Events Unit** brings women activists from all fields together to share experiences and celebrate successes. It organizes and conducts issue-based seminars, inviting women activists across Jordan to exchange views and raise awareness on various social and political issues, thus providing a venue for interaction between grassroots activists, women leaders and women in elected office.

**The Fundraising Unit** seeks to raise funds to directly support women's campaigns through conducting promotional presentations for potential donors. It is responsible for establishing systems and criteria to effectively manage and disperse funds, in accordance with established terms and Jordan's legal framework.

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