

JORDAN EDUCATION INITIATIVE, MAY 2004

UPDATE DOCUMENT

The following represents an update of all tracks to date in the Jordan Education Initiative (JEI). For further information and for updating this document, please contact the JEI Program Management Office (PMO).

Track 0: PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Achievements:

- 1) Executive Steering Committee of the Jordan Education Initiative formed, comprised of Ministers of Education, ICT, and Planning, as well as ERfKE DCU, global and local private sectors
- 2) Program Director appointed by Government of Jordan
- 3) Program Manager appointed as a contribution from Computer Associates for a minimum of a 1 year engagement in the Initiative
- 4) JEI Program Office established at MoICT, premises also being established at MoE
- 5) Positions in JEI PMO
 - a) E-Curricula Project Manager appointed, provided by the Government of Jordan
 - b) In-Classroom Technology Project Manager appointed, provided by Cisco Systems
 - c) Lifelong Learning coordinator appointed on part-time basis, provided by the Government of Jordan
 - d) In-Classroom Technology Coordinator position will be funded by HP
 - e) Project Coordinator position will be funded by Microsoft
 - f) Education Strategist position under consideration for funding by Global e-Schools and Communities Initiative

Challenges:

- 1) Assessment methodology for the Jordan Education Initiative
- 2) Fulfilling additional staffing requirements for JEI PMO is an urgent requirement
- 3) Development of Academic Advisory Board

Track 1: DISCOVERY SCHOOLS

Track 1a: In-Classroom Technology

Achievements:

- 1) Infrastructure in Schools:
 - a) Fiber broadband connectivity completed for 3 Discovery Schools in partnership with Corning Cable Systems and STS
 - b) Government of Jordan issued tender for Project Manager to oversee deployment of fiber broadband connectivity to remaining Discovery Schools by end 2004. A total of 226 schools, including other Ministry of Education schools will be connected.
 - c) Ministry of Education is providing a Math's lab for all 100 Discovery Schools.
- 2) In-Classroom Technology Contributions
 - a) Donation and implementation of 31 laptops and 31 data projectors from HP for deployment in the first six Discovery Schools

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- b) Donation and implementation of 20 laptops from Dell for deployment in the next five Discovery Schools over the next few weeks
- c) Donation of approximately 30 laptops from Intel (exact numbers to be confirmed over the coming weeks) for deployment in the third wave of Discovery Schools implementation
- d) Donation and implementation of wireless access points from Cisco Systems in the first six Discovery Schools, the access points for at least another fourteen schools will be installed as and when required. Shipping provided by DHL.
- e) Donation of 425 iPAQ's from HP for deployment as part of the iPAQ Discovery Schools Project which is currently being scoped. Shipping provided by Aramex.
- f) Donation of JD500,000 from USAID for in-classroom technology requirements in the Discovery Schools
- g) Donation of 150 units from the IBM KidSmart for deployment in Kindergarten schools
- h) Intel is providing support for the development of an in-classroom technology deployment strategy to include aspects such as leading edge technology innovation and application, optimal classroom deployment/support, cost/benefit and TCO analysis of various models, etc.
- 3) Schools deployment of Math Online
 - a) 3rd month of Math Online deployment for Grades 1-6 in the first six Discovery Schools
 - b) Schools readiness development including MoE provided math's labs is an ongoing process
 - c) Teaching and technology deployment processes are being monitored by the JEI PMO, Rubicon SMEs, and the core team of the Math's supervisors
 - d) Ongoing review and development of systematic MoE processes for the implementation and support of technology in the schools

Challenges/Needs:

- 1) Hardware commitments to scale the Initiative remain an urgent priority
- 2) Local project management and expertise for the iPAQ project
- 3) Development and implementation of a schools administration system to foster process oriented approaches to educational deployment in the Discovery Schools

Track 1b: e-Curricula Development

Achievements:

- 1) Standards for e-Curriculum in JEI Discovery Schools
 - a) MoE and JEI partners working on enabling an appropriate level of consistency and quality (not rigid uniformity) across number of e-Curricula in the Discovery Schools project
 - b) Workshops held, and findings will be issued at JEI Update Meeting in May 2004
- 2) Math Online
 - a) Development of numeracy strand complete, consisting of 572 lesson plans for grades 1-9 and deployed in 6 pilot Discovery Schools. Development of geometry strand is also complete.
 - b) Development of data analysis (75% complete) and algebra strand (80% complete) now in progress. Logic and calculus will follow.
 - c) Math e-curriculum on schedule for 100% completion for full deployment in September 2004
- 3) ICT e-Curriculum
 - a) Microsoft funding curriculum development for grades 1-12, with Menhaj as project implementation partner
 - b) Completed a full international comparison of ICT skills taught internationally

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- c) Finalized didactic plan for grades 1-12
- d) Completed grade 1 storyboards
- e) Submitted grade 1 lessons for animation and design
- f) Currently completing grades 2 and 3 detailed objectives and storyboards. Grade 1 self learning and blended learning materials and teacher centered materials to be completed and submitted
- 4) Science Online
 - a) Fastlink and Rubicon Science Online project kick-off meeting for development of science curriculum development
 - b) Work methodology complete, and project plan underway
 - c) Fastlink will fund development of Science curriculum from grades 1-12
- 5) English Interactive Online
 - a) The Ministry of Education and Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) will be working on the development of a dynamic, interactive, English-as-a-Foreign-Language course that will be prepared by MoE for grades 7-12
 - b) A project proposal has been submitted and is currently under review by the Ministry of Education
- 6) Arabic Curricula Online
 - a) France Telecom and Jordan Telecom have committed to the development of an “Arabic as a first language” e-Learning curriculum. Based on the framework of Jordan’s existing Arabic curriculum, the new electronically supported curriculum will cover grades 1-12 comprehensively and progressively for delivery in a blended learning approach

Challenges:

- 1) Partner support for the development of a Civics and Geography e-curricula
- 2) Evaluation and performance assessment of deployed e-curricula

Track 1c: **Training**

Achievements:

- 1) At a basic level, all teachers applying the Math Online curriculum in classrooms are ICDL certified and have a World Links or Intel Teach to the Future qualification
- 2) Training of MoE Math’s supervisors and Grade 1-3 supervisors (Core Team):
 - a) Change management (conducted by MobileCom trainer) (11-13.01.04)
 - b) EduWave training (14-15.01.04)
 - c) e-Math’s training (conducted by Cisco Learning Institute) (17-21.01.04)
- 3) Training of Math’s teachers in the 6 DS (conducted by Core Team)
 - a) Laptop/EduWave training (04.03.04)
 - b) Math Online training (06.03.04)
- 4) Training of Math’s teachers in 8 additional Discovery Schools (conducted by Core Team)
 - a) Laptop/EduWave training (26.04.04)
 - b) E-Math’s training (27.04.04)
- 5) Change Management Training (6 DS):
 - a) Training conducted by MobileCom trainer at MobileCom training facilities for each school, participants include:
 - i) School principal

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- ii) School principal assistant
 - iii) All Math's teachers
 - iv) All Grade 1-3 class teachers
 - v) Computer teacher
- 6) NetCorps Jordan providing 25 interns to support in-school change management programs, funded by the Krach Family Foundation
- 7) Development of a Teacher Training Strategy and Implementation Plan for the Discovery Schools
- a) Development of Teacher Training Strategy and Implementation Plan underway by JEI PMO. Ahmad Hiasat, Ministry of Education, and Mike Trucano, World Links, is working with partners to define strategy. This effort is funded by MobileCom
 - b) An evaluation study of current implementation of teacher training in Discovery Schools was conducted in May 2004 and a teacher training strategy will be completed in July 2004 for implementation in September 2004

Challenges:

- 1) Resources for the implementation of the teacher training strategy as will be defined in July 2004
- 2) Monitoring and evaluation for impact of training program in the Discovery Schools will be required
- 3) Development of a Change Management Training program for the Discovery Schools

Track 2: LIFELONG LEARNING

Achievements:

- 1) DHL committed to funding scoping study for Lifelong Learning track, including needs assessment for small to medium sized enterprises for e-learning content
- 2) Young Entrepreneurs Association have agreed to be the lead partner with DHL in defining suitable approach for implementation of needs assessment study
- 3) DHL presented initial scope of work for consideration in the JEI Update Meeting in May

Challenges:

- 1) Timely completion of needs assessment study

Track 3: ICT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

Achievements:

- 1) Study on e-Learning cluster of Jordan's ICT Industry initiated between Intaj and CommercialWare/Corel Corporation
- 2) CommercialWare/Corel Corporation assigned team of six, who are currently preparing interview methodology with Jordanian IT CEOs as well as global CEOs
- 3) Findings are committed to be shared at the May 13-14 Stakeholder Update Meeting

Challenges:

- 1) Final shape of initial scoping study not yet defined