



# International Alert – Jordan capacity statement

## COUNTRY BRIEF

International Alert is one of the world's leading organisations working on peace and conflict, with nearly 30 years of experience in supporting community resilience and helping people find non-violent solutions to conflict and tensions. We work with people around the world to help them build peace, and we advise governments, organisations and companies on how to support peace.

We offer a comprehensive set of services to help development and humanitarian organisations operate in a conflict-sensitive way. The central aim is to reduce their unintended negative impacts and support peace in different parts of the world.

## What we do

Working in partnership with organisations or as part of consortia, we advise and support on:

- Training, capacity development and advice on conflict-sensitivity, conflict-sensitive and gender sensitive programme & service delivery; youth and community engagement
- Community-inclusive, conflict-sensitive programme design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation (M&E)
- Community engagement and outreach communications, M&E strategies and feedback mechanisms
- Facilitated consultations and participatory implementation processes;
- Integration of social cohesion and conflict sensitivity approaches to humanitarian and development programming
- Delivery and development of peace education approaches and psychosocial support for children and young people
- Capability building for local, national and regional CSOs and networks, media and communities (particularly with young people and women's organisations).
- Research and context analyses

## Our track record in Jordan

International Alert has been active in Jordan since 2017, with work overseen by our regional hub office in Beirut, Lebanon. Through an expanding portfolio of peacebuilding projects, Alert has built up a solid network of local and national CSO partners and in-depth knowledge of national and local conflict issues. In addition to this, we draw on expertise on a range of issues from across the region, as well as in our global team.

### Conflict sensitivity:

International Alert provides training and accompaniment to a range of donors, NGOs and other actors who work in Jordan on conflict sensitivity, as well as specific processes such as the ways in which dialogue and mediation can be integrated into other projects.

### Youth and social cohesion in education:

We worked with NRC to create a Toolkit on Education and Social Cohesion and trained NRC staff on its use in public schools where Jordanian and Syrian refugee children are enrolled. The toolkit includes chapters on child protection, social cohesion, dealing with bullying and violence and parental engagement, detailed lesson plans and exercises, and a module on monitoring and evaluation for social cohesion. Alert has extensive experience mainstreaming social cohesion and conflict sensitivity into health and education programmes across the MENA region.

### Youth and social cohesion through technology:

International Alert has worked with partners on using technology to bring young people together with its 'Tech Social' approach. Tech Social brings together technology skills development and capacity building in dialogue and conflict resolution and is based on a successful pilot with Jordanian and Syrian young women and men. It harnesses the power and appeal of technology to bring young Syrians and Jordanian girls and boys together to understand and jointly solve their communities' problems. Our peacebuilding solution uses tech

(coding, development, networking platforms and social media) education and 'peacehacks' to create networks that promote peaceful coexistence. Technology up-skilling is accompanied by dialogue processes bringing Jordanian and displaced Syrian young people physically together across the conflict divide to meet, form bonds, learn and cooperate, taking action on social issues.

### **Youth and resilience:**

International Alert has provided advisory support on projects related to youth resilience in Jordan, including conducting scoping studies and context analyses and advice of design and implementation using a peacebuilding lens to a range of partners, including the British Council. This builds on work we have done across the Middle East Region (including Lebanon and Syria) on youth and resilience, including evaluations and research on what makes programming in this sector successful.

### **Preventing Violent Extremism:**

Alert has developed tools and guidance on measuring PVE impact (involving design, monitoring, and evaluation) for the United National Development Programme (UNDP) Arab States Regional Hub. Since publication it has become a global resource for UNDP, with testing in UNDP Country Offices including Jordan, where we have conducted training for staff. Using the toolkit, we accompany those in the training to improve analysis, theories of change, baseline establishment, monitoring, data collection, and evaluation.

### **Women and water:**

International Alert is currently conducting research on the nexus between gender, climate and conflict with ongoing research in Lebanon and Jordan relating to women and water management.

## **What we do**

- Forthcoming research on **Understanding the linkages between climate change, human security, and gender in Jordan** with WANA.
- Research project on the **links between livelihoods and conflict issues in Syria**, covering the multiple complex drivers of conflict and how they relate to economic needs. This included self-commissioned research by Alert into the economic drivers of social tensions in host communities in Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq (conducted in 2016 and 2017 - brief available on request).

- **Social Cohesion in Schools: Toolkit for violence and bullying free schools in Jordan** – a toolkit developed in 2017 with NRC in Jordan, which provides practical tools to support social cohesion amongst students and building positive relationships between teachers and students

## **How we do it**

At Alert, we design and undertake all research in a conflict-sensitive and gender-sensitive manner, using the following approach:

- Adopting a participatory approach to ensure analysis and resulting programming and policy prescriptions are based on a range of perspectives.
- Building trust and agency.
- Using a range of structured and semi-structured tools for analysis, chosen flexibly according to their suitability to context and participants.
- Choosing locations for activities which consider negative political, social or economic consequences, and issues of physical security for participants, and how to address excluded groups.
- Adopting secure data management tools, appropriate formats for activities so that they allow for open and honest disclosure of opinions, and the appropriate gender balance in the team facilitating activities.
- Considering sustainability: how the research process can build the capacity of practitioners, local organisations, and programme participants, as well as collaborative relationships which can be sustained beyond the programme activities.
- Understanding the risks and challenges of researching in fragile contexts. We prioritise the safety and security of research personnel and have a robust duty of care towards our staff, consultants and associates, taking a proactive management approach to identifying, monitoring, mitigating and responding to risks in each of the countries where we operate.

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### **International Alert**

London, UK

Tel +44 (0)20 7627 6800

Email [info@international-alert.org](mailto:info@international-alert.org)

[www.international-alert.org](http://www.international-alert.org)

 /international-alert

 @intalert

 /InternationalAlert