

Service für Entwicklungsinitiativen



# GERMAN-MIDDLE EASTERN MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIPS

## Municipal partnerships for local solutions to global challenges

The municipal level plays a central role in developing and strengthening societies in the Middle East. The programme "German-Middle Eastern Municipal Partnerships" of the Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW) supports municipalities in Germany with partners in the Middle East in their cooperation and professional exchange of knowledge. Within the framework of municipal partnerships, municipalities work together to develop local solutions to global challenges.

Municipal self-government in Jordan, Lebanon and the Palestinian Territories plays a vital component in the

Middle East despite facing challenges such as limited municipal structures and lack of resources. The political situation is often unstable and social tensions pose additional challenges for municipalities. The provision of basic services such as water supply, waste management and education requires the joint efforts of all actors. Many German municipalities have expertise in municipal services that are needed in the Middle East. At the same time, German municipalities benefit from the exchange of knowledge with their partner municipalities, which are developing innovative approaches to municipal development under difficult political conditions and in times of crisis. The "German-Middle Eastern Municipal Partnerships" programme builds on this and supports learning from and with each other.

#### Contact

Would your municipality like to know more about the programme "German-Middle Eastern Municipal Partnerships"? Are you interested in partnership work between German and Middle Eastern municipalities?

### What are the objectives?

The programme "German-Middle Eastern Municipal Partnerships" aims to strengthen municipal governance in the partner countries, find local solutions for global challenges and promote dialogue between people in the Middle East and Germany. The objectives are:

- $\rightarrow$  Establish and further develop municipal partnerships between German municipalities and partner municipalities in the Middle East
- → Develop and implement concrete measures to strengthen municipal institutions and thus municipal services and the inclusive participation of citizens
- → Deepen cooperation with bilateral development cooperation in the partner countries and promote regional learning

### What offers are available?

The current partner countries in the region are Jordan, Lebanon and the Palestinian Territories, but the regional approach also allows municipalities from other countries in the Middle East to participate. It enables networking and cooperation between partner municipalities across national borders. The following offers are available for municipal partners:

- → Needs-based advice for partner municipalities and partnerships
- → Funding of professional delegation visits
- → Peer-to-peer exchange formats for networking and mutual learning
- → Capacity Building formats on topics related to municipal development cooperation
- → Support in the development of concrete partnership projects

### Who can participate?

The programme "German-Middle Eastern Municipal Partnerships" is open to municipalities from the Middle East and German municipalities that would like to actively get involved in joint development cooperation initiatives and municipal partnerships. Participating municipalities shall use their own staff

for project planning and implementation within the framework of municipal partnership work.



#### Contact

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7 German-Middle Eastern Municipal Partnerships Programme



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with its

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On behalf of



Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development