The Ministry of Culture, since its inception, has played a pioneering role in fostering cultural and creative endeavors in Jordan. It has contributed to raising the magnitude of cultural activities in Jordan by annually hosting and implanting various programmes and activities, particularly ones related to cultural diversity. It can be said that all the programmes, events, and activities hosted or supported by the Ministry aim one or another to further the cause of protecting, conserving, and promoting cultural diversity, for diversity is one of the pillars upon which the Ministry was founded, and an integral part of cultural activity in general. Many governmental institutions and NGOs, including societies and committees, have contributed to the drafting of the report by providing the Ministry with the data and information that are vital, supplying the report with the most prominent achievements in the cultural sphere and the promotion cultural diversity in particular. Of the most notable programmes and achievements performed annually by the Ministry, we mention:

1– Cultural programs for the public such as The Jordanian Family Library, Cities of Culture, The Mobile Children’s Library, The Mobile Theatrical Lab, and cultural centers.

2– Programmes furthering communities’ and cultural interaction, the rejection of extremism, and the promotion of tolerance and diversity.

3– Festival, conferences, forums, and seminars planned by the Ministry.

4– Participating in Cultural Weeks in neighboring and friendly countries.

5– Participating in international book fairs, and artistic and cultural conferences and forums.

6– Drafting and planning cultural agreements and executive programmes.

7– Holding theatrical performances and art exhibitions.

8– Publishing programmes.

9– Cultural committees and societies.
Cultural diversity and world heritage.

General Information

a- Name of Party: Ministry of Culture,
b- Date of ratification: 16 February 2007
c- Ratification process (e.g. parliamentary process)
d- Total contribution to the IFCD (to date): 653 USD
e- Organization(s) or entity (ies) responsible for the preparation of the report: MINISTRY OF CULTURE
f- Officially designated point of contact: Amani Abu Hamore
g- Date report was prepared: 1/April/2018
h- Name of designated official(s) signing the report: Minister of Culture

Dr. Basim Tweissi

(i) Description of the consultation process established for the preparation of the report and name of representative(s) of participating civil society organization(s)

For the purposes of preparing this report, many local institutions and NGOs were consulted. Of these, we mention Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Royal Cultural Centre, Department of the National Library, Jordanian Writers Society, Zaha Cultural Centre, and Civil Service Bureau.

General Cultural Policies:

The Ministry of Culture of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan efforts are directed towards promoting an inclusive national culture that is founded on being a Jordanian, Arabic,
Islamic, and Universal. The Ministry provides a climate encouraging for creativity in the cultural and artistic spheres, and directs its attention towards culture and the performing and fine arts that embody our Arabic and Islamic values. In addition, it is The Ministry's policy to strengthen international communication and relationships with cultural committees and institutions both Arab and other wise. It also aims for developing Jordanian talents in all fields.

The Ministry of Culture endeavours to raise cultural activity in Jordan, and offering the creative free space it needs, as well as building local community’s capacities for managing and utilizing it in a way that affects their quality of life on the social, economic, and intellectual levels. The Ministry fosters the ideas that promoting respect for cultural diversity, and values of dialogue and coexistence through inculcating and supporting a culture of creativity, and promoting Jordanian intangible heritage and preserving it in addition to Culture for the People programme, organizing cultural and artistic fairs and festivals, artistic and cultural exchange, and offering financial support to art and culture sectors.

The 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions has given rise to a new trend for cultural policies in Jordan, which were reoriented in The Plan for Cultural Development for the years 2017–2019 to promote and protect the diversity of cultural expression, and encourage dialogue among cultures with a view to ensuring wider and balanced cultural exchanges.

**Cultural Policies and Measures:**

**First: Measures Ensuring Creativity and Innovation**

Jordan is an outstanding cultural hub. The Jordanian Government endeavors to encourage creative literary production, as well as artistic and cultural creativity through supporting writers, art projects, the theatre, and youth TV drama and cinema. The
government implements plans to entice youth to adopt the values of dialogue and exchange of opinions. It aims for strengthening their artistic capacities through holding festivals targeting youth, organizing activities in cooperation with concerned cultural committees, and including competitions and prizes into cultural activates, rewarding youth’s production and creative capabilities.

**Second: legislative and Regulatory Measures**

- Ratifying the Cultural Development Plan for the years 2017–2019, which includes provisions aiming for encouraging cultural and artistic development.
- Ratifying the National Documents Protection law.
- Issuing the new Jordanian Art Endowments law.
- Sponsoring Culture law and it amendments no.36/2006.
- Societies law for 2008 and its amendments.
- Cultural and Heritage Publishing regulation no.21/2007.
- Special regulations for supporting culture and youth.
- The Competition for Heritage and Documentary Record regulations.
- The regulations for the National Programme for Inventorying Intangible cultural heritage.
- The regulations for Youth Creativity Contest.
- The Ministry regulations for the Nabati Poetry Award.
- The regulations for the Jordan International Film Festival.
- The regulations for Nabati Poetry Festival.
- The regulations for the Arabic Language Depository Project.
- Supporting Publishing and Publication regulations.
- The regulations for Ministry of Culture Creativity Awards.
- Jordanian Singing Festival regulations.
- The regulations for Procuring Literary Works.
- Jordanian Family Library Project regulations.
1. Financial Measures

A part of governmental budgets is assigned to the implementation and carrying out of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. This part includes budgets of operating intuitions without specification. The budget assigned depends on the institution's responsibilities and financial capability such as The Ministry of Culture, The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Greater Amman Municipality, and NGOs operative in the field of culture, in addition to the financial aid to projects of cultural diversity presented by:

- UNESCO.
- European Union.

Moreover, there are sums allotted annually to support cultural committees and institutions as well as individuals involved in the creative process.
2. Institutional Measures:

- Facilitating the creation of non-governmental organizations and societies concerned with the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expression to the extent that the law and regulations allow.

- The active presence of international organizations in the Kingdom, and their constant efforts to involve grassroots communities in projects encouraging cultural diversity of expression, in addition to the role played by the UNESCO Amman Office in raising awareness on the importance of supporting forms of cultural expression.

Bodies Concerned with the protection and promotion of cultural expression

First, Ministry of Culture:
The Ministry of Culture occupies a place of prominence in the domain of protecting and promoting cultural expressions, and is considered as one of the most important bodies overseeing diversity of cultural expression. It is responsible for implementing the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, and benefitting local communities in accordance with its provisions. The Ministry is currently implementing The Arabic Language Depository, which documents cultural, intellectual, and scientific production in cooperation with national organizations and individuals.

Second, Directorates of Culture:
Directorates of Culture in Jordanian governorates are charged with implementing the Convention, and raising public awareness of its provisions, in addition to supervising festivals reflective of governorates' specific identities.
Third, National Institutions and Cultural Committees

- The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities organizes local festivals, and encourages cooperation and interaction of local communities, and hosts festivals and poetry evenings.
- Jordanian Writers Society publishes collections of short stories, novels, poetry books, and holding lectures about heritage.
- Al Jeel Al Jadeed Club, located in Amman, conserves the Caucasian cultural heritage such as dancing, singing, languages, traditions, and customs, and transmits them to members of Jordanian–Caucasian community.
- Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation hosts cultural and scientific lectures, seminars, and workshops in cooperation with universities, national institutions, and cultural and scientific centers, which consequently, raises the awareness of individuals.
- Jordan Radio and Television Corporation airs several programmes with heritage vocation like (Translated):
  - A sundry of cultural festivals.
  - Revival of old traditional occupations.
  - Broadcasting programmes with heritage vocation presenting the country’s traditions, customs, and achievements through a programming exchange with first world countries like France.
- Some Jordanian newspapers publish weekly supplements that covers various cultural topics in Jordan such as Al Ra’i and Ad–Dustour newspapers.
Bodies promoting cultural diversity:


Fourth, Measures guaranteeing access to diverse cultural expressions:

People in Jordan has the right to express their culture freely though participating in events and activities in which they display their traditions and customs and their attachment to them.

* The Ministry implements number of programmes and projects in line with its aims and message:

1) Reading for all Festival (Jordanian Family Library) aims for encouraging reading and owning valuable books for nominal prices.

2) A number of Projects aiming for raising awareness and cultivating knowledge such as conferences, forums, seminars, and lectures, which sometimes address social issues such as extremism and violence; dialogue, tolerance, and acceptance of others; interfaith harmony and cultural diversity; transparency and good governance; and many other topics.

3) Programmes aiming for training young talents in centers affiliated with the Ministry, such as Muhanna Al–Dura and Princess Salma Center for Childhood, on the arts
of painting, porcelain, Arabic calligraphy, and music. Supporting creativity and creators is one of the Ministry's policies and an integral of its mission for youth.

4) Organizing many national, theatrical, artistic and heritage festivals in various regions of the Kingdom in cooperation with national institutions, cultural committees, and civil society such as:

- Jordan Theatre Festival—Professional groups.
- Ammon Theatre (youth) Festival.
- Child Creativity Festival.
- Al Khalidiya Festival for Nabataean Poetry.
- As-Samer Festival for Heritage and Arts
- Jordan Film Festival.
- Harvest Festival for Arts and Culture.
- Karak Culture Festival.
- As-Salt Festival for Arts and Culture.
- Wheat and Olives Festival of Shatana.
- Ajloun Culture Festival (The Green Cloak).
- Neighing in Olive Groves Festival.
- Az–Zarqa Culture Festival.
- Jordanian Song Festival.
- Jordan Children Theatre Festival.
- Amateurs Theatre Festival.
- Traditional Crafts and Food Festival.

5) Implementing programmes targeting children such as the Mobile Child Library, publishing children's books, printing Wesam Magazine, Jordanian Children Parliament, and training children in plastic arts, in addition to organizing several recreational and educational activities events and activities such as theatrical performances, puppet shows, lecture, and workshops, as well as encouraging them to create and develop their talents.
6) Jordanian Cities and Provinces of Culture Programme, which designated Dhiban, Kufranjah, and Basira as provinces of Jordanian culture for the year 2019, and Ar–Ramtha, Aghwar Janoobiyyah, and Ein Al–Basha as provinces of culture for the year 2018, is considered one of the nationwide pioneering projects promoting the development of cultural activity in the Jordanian governorates through various projects and activities held year–round. Such activities include organizing festivals, seminars, art galleries, workshops, theatrical performances, lectures, and other activities, in addition to supporting to local civil society groups in the governorates.

7) Fostering cultural committees, societies, and groups, as well as supporting cultural projects. This programme includes:

- Supporting civil society institutions and building partnerships with them, in addition to offering financial assistance to them, guaranteeing their continuation of their contributions, and supporting their activities across the kingdom.
- Honoring and supporting creators thorough awards such as:

1) Ministry of Culture Creativity Awards.
2) Young Creators and Heritage Competition.
3) Honoring Jordanian initiative–takers whether they be individuals or organizations for their cultural and humanitarian contributions to Jordanian society.
4) Producing Cultural Highlights, which introduces Jordanian intellectuals and creators from all fields to the public. This broadcasting programme is aired on several T.V. and radio stations, and it has received a prestigious Arab award in Cairo.
5) Saham Award for Young Creators, which is presented in collaboration with Saham Cultural Forum.
Ministry of Culture prominent Projects:

1) Cultural Diversity Festival, which is held annually, and it includes exhibits of art and traditional artefacts and traditional dishes. Individuals, societies, and cultural committees take part in the event, as well as folk art groups such as Kurd Roj, The Chechen Group, and Al Hannouneh Group.

2) Amman Cultural Forum; this year under the title Investing in Jordanian Art and Culture.

3) Jordanian Cities of Culture Project.

4) Art Endowments Project.

5) Family Library Project (A Library for Every Home).

6) The National Thesaurus of Jordan Project.

7) Jordan Theatre Festival Project for Professionals.

8) The Mobile Children Library Project.

9) The Arabic Language Depository

10) Talents Camps Project.

11) Youth Creativity Competition Programme.

12) The Ministry of Culture Fine Arts Training Centre programmes.

13) Culture development programmes in correctional centers.

14) Culture development programmes of The Royal Cultural Centre.

15) National honors and encouragement awards Programmes.

16) Disseminating cultural production programmes.

17) Cultural development programmes in the Governorates.

18) Al Khalidiya Festival for Nabataean Poetry.

19) Ministry of Culture awards programmes for creativity.

20) Folk art groups competition programme.

21) Cultural Highlights programme.

22) Children Creativity programme.

23) International Films programme.
24) Theatrical Lab Project.
25) Knowledge Hut.
26) Parliamentary Life Museum.
27) Establishing cultural centers in the governorates Madaba, Jarash, Balqa, and Ajloun.
28) As-Samer Festival.
29) At-Tafilah Traditional Handicrafts Festival.

**International Cooperation:**

Programmes and Projects implemented by the Ministry promoting diversity of cultural expressions:

In General, they aim for:

1) Recognizing cultural diversity.
2) Opening spaces for inter-communal communication and interaction.
3) Developing cultural exchange between Jordan and neighboring and friendly countries.
4) Strengthening cooperation between producers in cultural organizations and creative and cultural industries for building the capacities of both.
5) Introducing the Jordanian cultural scene, which strengthen international cooperation in encouraging diversity of cultural expression. This cooperation occurs between the Ministry of Culture and international organizations both private and public.

Jordan, through the Ministry of Culture, has spent more the 500,000 JODs on international cooperation, while it spent in Jarash Festival more than 1 million JODs on participations from outside Jordan (Artists and groups both Arab and otherwise).

1. Taking part in Weeks of Culture in Neighboring and Friendly counties.
The Ministry annually hosts several activities of the Weeks of Culture. The activities include cultural and artistic activities, film screenings, and seminars and lectures about the cultural activity in Jordan and the participating countries. The Weeks of Culture programme includes Days of Egyptian, Fujairah, and Tunisian culture. The Ministry also participate in Weeks of Culture, hosting a week of Jordanian culture in many countries such as Morocco, Abu Dhabi, Tunisia, Iraq, and Armenia.

2. Participation in international artistic and cultural festivals, conferences, events, and forums:

These are held either abroad or in Jordan, and it includes participants form private and public sectors, individuals, and civil society bodies such as:

1) Jordan International Film Festival

13 Arab countries, 6 Islamic, 23 foreign participated. The Festival encourages the development of Jordanian film industry and T.V. drama. It also aims for raising the capacities of the film industry, and encouraging talented professional directors. Additionally, it contributes to the raise of a vigorous Jordanian cinema scene. The Festival raises awareness on cinema though discussion events such as the one held at the screening of *The Blind of the Cathedral*, directed by Nadine Asmar, Lebanon.

2) The fifth Arab Cultural Festival, Korea.

3) Participating in The Ship of Literature Festival in Armenia.

4) The Jordanian Artists Association participated in many Arab and international festivals include:

- Sufi Song Festival in Morocco.
- Tetawin International Cinema Festival.
5) The Ministry of Culture participated in many festivals, meetings, and conferences both Arab and international:

- The International Lute Festival held in Morocco.
- Chengdu International Conference, China.
- 11th Arab Children Forum.
- World Culture Forum, Bali Indonesia.
- 4th Youth for Arab Women Organization Forum
- China–Arab States Forum under the title Dialogue between Arab and Chinese civilization.
- Participating in the graduation Ceremony for female students of the University of Sharjah, UAE.
- International Forum of Hajj, Alexandria.
- 1st Forum for Translation's Role in Promoting Intercultural communication, Saudi Arabia.
- 18th Session for the Ministers in Charge of Cultural Affairs in Arab World.
- 2nd Forum of Arab World Festivals in cooperation with the Arab League, Bahrain.
- Attending the 8th session of Islamic Forum celebrating the announcement of making Medina the capital of Islamic culture, Saudi Arabia.
- Attending the 7th meeting of the Islamic World Heritage Committee.
- Participating in the activities of the 9th Shaikh Zayed Festival in UAE, Abu Dhabi.
- Participating in the forum Together for Protecting Human heritage from Extremism, Bahrain.
- Participating in the events of mixed exhibition of Asian cultures in the National Museum, Beijing.
- Participating in the ceremony of declaring Al-Shariqah the 19th city named World Book Capital in coordination with UNSECO.
- Attending the 2nd session of the Arab Children Parliament.
- Participating in the 17th Meeting Agenda of the Council of Cultural Development in the Islamic World.

3. Making and implementing Cultural agreements and programmes with neighboring and friendly countries:

For strengthening cultural cooperation thorough signing international cultural agreements encouraging the exchange and distribution of cultural commodities between the Kingdom of Jordan and neighboring and friendly countries with aim of promoting diversity, Jordan has signed almost 66 international agreements with several countries such as:

6) Arab Courtiers: 18 agreements signed between Jordan and many Arab countries such as Kuwait, Mauritania, UAE, Sudan, Lebanon, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and others.

7) 10 with Islamic countries such as Iran, Malaysia, Turkey, Indonesia, Pakistan, and Tajikistan

8) 38 foreign countries such as Norway, Armenia, Romania, Chile, Philippines, Canada, Paraguay, China, Korea, India, and Hungary.

4. Participating in international book fairs

The Ministry of Culture Participated in many fairs such as The 18th International Fair for Publication and Books in Morocco, Kuwait 37th Book Fair, Palestine International Book Fair, 17th Bahrain International Book Fair, Tunisia International Book Fair, the 46th, 49th,
and 50th Cairo International Book Fair, and many others held in other countries or in Jordan with international participation.

5. Participating in capacity building programmes in theatre, film making, heritage, and handicrafts:

Jordan took part in many capacity building session, workshops, and seminars for workers in the field of culture such as:

1) The Ministry's participation in workshop on the role of traditional industries and handicrafts in strengthening local economies, Turkey.

2) Participating in workshop under the title Preserving Documentary Heritage, organized by UNSECO Amman office and Qatar National Library. The workshop is the fourth step in the Advanced Leadership Capacity Building Programme organized by Public Performance Development Department—Prime Minister Office, Singapore.

3) Attending the activities of the Crown Prince Camel Festival in Taif, Saudi Arabia.

4) Participating in a training workshop about registering in the UNSECO Memory of the World programme in coordination with Korean Memory of the World National Committee, Malta.

6. Participation in folklore and art exhibitions:

- Jordanian contributions abroad:

Jordan, represented by the Ministry of Culture, local communities' representatives, cultural committees, and artists, took part in many artistic and photography galleries such as:

1) Participation of Salt Group of Young Men and Women for Folk Arts in Ramadan Bazar in Singapore.

2) The Participation of Ammon Group for Jordanian Heritage in the activities of Traditional Clothing Parade during the Asian Cultures Week in China.
3) An exhibition of issues covers for manuscripts in cooperation with Institute of Manuscripts of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan.
4) International Festival of Tunisia for Kid's Theatre.
5) The participation of The Jordanian Artists Association in a fine arts symposium under the title “Zouk Mikael with My Brush”, organized by Zouk Mikael Municipality, Lebanon.

- International artistic and theatrical contributions in events in Jordan:
  1) The participation of Qatari, Emeriti, Yemini, Iraqi, Algerian, Moroccan, and Palestinian groups in the activities of Jordan Theatre Festival.
  2) Live performances by folk music groups in Jordanian Governorates:
     9) American folk music band Urban Method at King Abdullah II Cultural Centre, Az Zarqa.
     11) The Jerusalemite Siwar Group from Palestine.
     12) The Egyptian Sohag Group during Jarash Festival.
     13) Filipino Group during Jarash Festival.
     14) The Italian Group during Jarash Festival.
     15) Russian Youth Group in Aqaba.
     17) Rajasthani Group in Amman and Irbid.
Many international agreements encouraging cooperation and cultural exchange were signed. These agreements aim for:

1. Building the capacities of producers and practitioners of culture industries.
2. Supporting creativity and innovation, in addition to developing skills and talents in Jordan for the benefit of local communities and individuals. The most important countries engaged in building capacities and developing human resources are:

   First, capacity building for youth engaged in creative activities and developing the skills of workers and individuals in culture domain

- Individuals level, university professors were involved in festivals and conferences such as:

1) Participating in 25th Arab Music Festival and Conference (Silver Jubilee) with the paper “T Aesthetics of Performance in Arabic Music between Modernity and Heritage” in period between 1st and 6th Nov, 2019, Cairo Opera House, Cairo.
2) Participating in Musial Cultures Festival with a paper titled “Call to Prayer and Musical Modes and Ratios Used in 50 samples from Jordan’s Standardized Call to Prayer [translated]”, in the University of Hull, 3rd to 5th Apr, 2017, UK.

- External Training Sessions on the institutional and individual levels:

   First, Sessions on the institutional level:

   The Ministry of Culture took part in many trainings sessions, forums, and workshops in China, Korea, and other countries, and they are:

   ❖ China:

   Many training sessions and educational festivals were held, such as:

1. A session for practitioners of theatrical arts in the Arab world, China.
3. Workshop on Artistic effects of Celebrated Arab Artists titled “Expediting the Chinese Spirit”.
4. Specialized training session on stagecraft (sound, lighting, scenery, and wardrobe).
5. Theatrical Arts Festival and The New Global Media in Guizhou province.
6. A seminar on Chinese culture to developing countries officials.
7. A training session titled “Seminar on Chines Culture for Government Official from Developing Countries”.
8. A training session titled “Seminar for Directors of Festivals from Developing Countries”.
9. A training Session for Sculptors and Etchers from Arab Countries.
10. The Role Human Recourses in Managing Cultural Resources in Arab Courtiers.
11. A training session titled “Practical Chinese for Governmental Officials under the Belt Road Initiative”.
12. Workshop on Arab–Chines cultural and expertise exchange.
14. A seminar titled “Cultural Heritage Protection for Developing Countries”.

❖ Korea

1) The Arab–Korean Soccer Forum for Youth Leadership, Korea, which aims for promoting understanding and building communication networks between youth leaders in all domains of cultural production and media for the mutual benefit and progress of Korea, Arab world, and all nations.

❖ UNSECO, Paris:

• Sessions and workshops attended by Arab and foreign experts were organized in Jordan, such as:

1) A training session on library science for Mr. 'Ahmad al-Ataab of the General Book Committee, Yemen, Managing Libraries.

2) Organizing a session for the implementation of Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, 2003, with aim of building local capacities in compliance with UNESCO plan in that regard.

3) Organizing a workshop in the methods of archiving audio-visual material on the national level, attended by Australian expert Ray Adamson.

4) A workshop in UNESCO, Amman Office, attended by Lebanese expert Nada Aytany titled “Preparation for Nomination Files for the National and International Memory of the World Registers”.

Second, Session abroad—individual level:

1. Mr. Salah Jamil Nahar Ubaid’s, Head of Jarash Handicrafts Society, participation in the activities of many heritage festivals and exhibits in the Arab World.

2. Mr. Marwan Mahmoud Khalil Jurn’s, Sand Bottles Craftsman— Jarash Handicrafts Society, participation in Traditional Crafts Forum held under the title “Tourism and Heritage”.

3. Craftswoman Hadeel Fahid Al-Subiahy’s participation in the Semi-regional Workshop on developing Women’s Traditional Skills, organized by ISESCO Regional Office in Sharjah and Bahrain Committee for Culture and Antiquity.


5. Hadeel Al-Subiahy’s participation in the 6th International Forum: Moroccan Plenty, in Mohammedia, Morocco.

7. The Participation of Jordanian poet Layla al-Umoush in the 3rd Mleiha Cultural Forum, presenting recitations of Jordanian traditional poetry, Sharjah, UAE.

8. The participation of Traditional Producers Society in the celebrations of the 3rd Crafts Global Village Event, and New Delhi Design Week, India. The Society received the best Sustainability and Development NGO International Award.

Second, building youth capacities in education:

Many cultural exchange agreements, with more than 37 countries, were signed by The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research–Jordan to encourage the exchange of students through scholarships programmes, and the enrollment of non–Jordanian in Private and Public Universities.

- Arab counties (12): Saudi Arabia, Iraq, UAE, Kuwait, Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, Kurdistan, Syria, Palestine, and Egypt.
- Non–Arab countries (25): China, Ukraine, Pakistan, Portugal, Paraguay, Bulgaria, Malaysia, Hungary, Armenia, Netherlands, Georgia, Kirgizstan, Brazil, Tajikistan, Italy, Peru, Cuba, Greece, Romania, Brunei, Cyprus, Taiwan, Salvador, Spain, and South Korea.
- National and local fellowships:

Many countries offer scholarships to Jordanian students to continue their education such as: Egypt, Sudan, Algeria, Armenia, Romania, Morocco, and Tunisia, in addition to Master's scholarships in fine arts to Ministry of Cultural employees in Romania.
• The number of Jordanian students studying abroad in bachelor’s, master’s and Ph.D. programmes for the year 2017 is 24019 student in more than 53 countries.

• The numbers of non-Jordanian students enrolled in Jordanian public university form more than 83 are:
  - Bachelor’s: 19615 student, 11367 male, 8248 female.
  - Graduate: 4611 student, 3076 male, 1535 female.

• The Numbers of students enrolled in Jordanian private universities from 83 countries are:
  - Bachelor’s: 833211 student, 24274 male, 29037 female.
  - Graduate: 2667 student, 1968 male, 699 female.

Section Four. Integrating Culture in Sustainable Development Policies:

Measures Taken on the National Level:

1. Contributing to the creation of a pluralistic culture based human rights, creativity and innovation.
2. Directing national cultural policies towards promoting and respecting diverse forms of cultural expression.
3. Raising institutional awareness of youth.
4. Diversifying measures aiming for promoting tolerance among youth.
5. Spreading the ideals of Arabic and Islamic civilization, and highlighting Jordan’s role in its development through crossing and interacting with other world cultures.
6. Supporting and disseminating artistic and intellectual production.
7. Establishing art and cultural centers, museums, as well as folk art and theatre groups for the benefit of the Jordanian cultural life.
8. Supporting authors, intellectuals, and artists, presenting with honors and awards, and encouraging talents in all domains of culture in the Kingdom of Jordan.
9. Setting the standards for excellence and creativity in all domains of cultural production, and developing the principles upon which awards are bestowed and competitions are organized.

10. Strengthening cultural relations with all countries through the encouragement of translation, and participation in conferences and festivals.

11. Promoting democracy's ideals of human rights and freedom of expression, granted under the constitution.

12. Organizing and supervising Festivals in the Kingdom in cooperation with involved parties.

The government encourages literary production, and endeavors to make Jordan the hub of Islamic tolerance. It does so through encouraging creative writing, theatre, fine arts, T.V. drama, and youth cinema in cooperation with The Royal Film Commission. It aims for making Jordan a unique cultural center though programmes incentivizing youth to create, engage in dialogue, and develop their talents through festivals and activities targeting youth and in cooperation with concerned bodies.

**Underprivileged groups:** There are no groups denied from their right whether culturally, politically or economically. Jordanian laws and constitution grants all Jordanians freedom of belief and work.

**Cultural Authorities:** Cultural authorities are located in all governorates, preforming their role in spreading and directing cultural policies towards the promotion of dialogue and diversity. Each authority organizes and implements activities and programmes native to its region. There are more than 600 cultural authority in cities, villages, and the countryside.
**Technology:**

The Ministry of Culture has a specialized department in charge of communication and information technology, in addition to having two websites:

Ministry of Culture website: www.culture.gov.jo

Intangible Cultural Heritage Directorate website: www.ICH.gov.jo

- Jordan has 100% internet coverage percentage.

**Exchange of experiences with other countries:**

Training programmes are for parties involved in cultural industries are always ongoing, and supervised by the Ministry or other national institutions.

**Financial Support:**

Jordan contribute annually to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity, puts forward projects promoting cultural diversity that make use of the Fund

**Measure Taken on International Level:**

1. The Ministry of Culture communicates with parties involved in the Convention.

2. Jordanian law permits institutions and organization to receive direct grants from developed countries.

3. Promoting culture through encouraging and supporting NGOs and building partnerships with the private sector.

4. Participating in cultural activities and programmes, such as book fairs, Weeks of Culture, poetry evenings, Jordanian films screenings, traditional clothing exhibitions, photography exhibitions, and various arts events.
Building Capacities:

Participating in specialized workshops in the domain of arts, culture, literary creation, handicrafts, and endangered traditional occupations on a local and international level.

Raising Awareness and Civil society involvement:

Main targets:

1. Involving individual capacities, and facilitating exchange of experience.
2. Creating an environment encouraging expressions of culture and heritage.
3. Building individual capacity and strengthening a sense of community and loyalty.
4. Introducing movement institutions to NGOs.
5. Connecting activities and efforts in a single context.

Regulatory Measures:

Under the Jordanian constitution, article 16, all Jordanians has the right to form societies and political parties (provided the legality of their purpose and it has an internal law that does not contradict the constitution). Article 3 states that law regulates the establishment of societies and political parties and monitors it resources. In 1996, the Societies and social committees no.33, 1966 was issued.

Since then, the Ministry functions as an umbrella for all committees registered for it, and they exceed 600 committee. The Ministry collaborates with these committees in spreading culture of positivity and volunteerism, in addition to holding workshops and training session helping people earn their living. On the ground, this collaboration is translated into an annual financial support offered to each committee involved spreading knowledge and opportunities. The Ministry supervise annual meeting through it delegate, writes reports that strengthen the principle of social work, and evaluates achievements
done through activities and events offered to various social groups. The annual support offered by the ministry to every registered committee is between 500 and 1000 JODs, and is based on the Ministry’s evaluation.

**Predicted outcomes:**

1. Encouraging the work of NGOs involved in heritage and the promotion of diversity of cultural expression.
2. Making available scientific instrument for the use in inventorying, preserving, and introducing cultural heritage to all social groups.
3. Identifying concerned societies at the level of the Kingdom.
4. Connecting societies sharing the same goals.
5. Building communities’ capacities for the required voluntary work.
6. Building capacities of individuals for identifying the needs of local communities.
7. Engaging youth in NGOs promoting positive values and dialogue.
8. Supervising NGOs activities within the framework of the law.
9. Building partnerships with public and private sectors for the distribution of cultural products throughout society, local, Arab, and international organizations, and sharing it through cultural activities, events, and Festivals in accordance with international policies and agreements, thus, creating a positive influence on individuals and society, and strengthening their relation to culture, heritage and the other.
10. The participation of several folk arts groups as well as producers of traditional handicrafts and foods representative of Jordan on an Arab and international level. Additionally, building the capacities of heritage practitioners,
and introducing the Jordanian cultural product to Arab and non-Arab countries, and exchange expertise with other cultures.

There are many bodies concerned with raising awareness in local communities and they are:

- **Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities:**

  The Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities annually organizes more than 50 festival and activity in many governorates:

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<th>Place</th>
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<tr>
<td>Balqa</td>
<td>The Dead Sea Nights Festival</td>
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<td>Maan</td>
<td>Al-Nakheil Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salt, Balqa</td>
<td>God bless Salt Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>At-Tafilah</td>
<td>Commodities Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Al-Maghtas, Balqa</td>
<td>Lighting Christmas Tree Festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Governorates</td>
<td>The song of the pen and the Sword</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dead Sea, Balqa</td>
<td>Clean Dead Sea Campaign</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amman Citadel, Amman</td>
<td>World Tourism Day Festival</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- **Jordanian Writers Society**
  The Society participates on an international level in the meeting and actives of the League of Asian, African and Latin American Writers, which are held twice a year in world’s capitals.

- **Cultural Diversity Forum of Jordan**
  This association has held a number workshops and conferences, and proposed the Spirit of Positivity Project, which aims for protecting society from extremist ideas.

- **The National Center for Culture and Arts of King Hussein Foundation**
  The Center’s most prominent activities are:
  - Amman Contemporary Dance Festival, International Arab Youth Congress, and the 2nd National Initiative for Civic Engagement Event “One Step at a Time”
  - National Interactive Theatre Troupe productions.
  - Theatre Based Techniques (TBT) Regional Training, Theatre Based Techniques for Peer Education

- **Jordanian Writers Union**
  The Union’s most prominent achievements are:
  First, International cooperation agreements:

1- Turning the Jordan–China Cultural Cooperation agreement into a permanent one, and making the Jordanian Writers Union the sole representative of Jordanian culture in China. The costs of the meeting in Beijing was 5000 JODs.

2- Signing an agreement between the Azeri Writers Union and Jordanian Writers Union.

3- Drafting an agreement between Kosovo and the Union.

4- Drafting an agreement with the University of Jordan.

5- Signing an agreement with the Ukrainian Writers Union.
6- Signing a permanent agreement with Jordan Radio and Television Corporation.
7- An unwritten agreement with boards of Al Ra'i and Ad-Dustour newspapers.
8- An agreement memorandum between Greater Amman Municipality and the Union.
9- Drafting an agreement with Saudi Cultural Mission.

Second, Participations:
1- Youth Forum, 2015, for were hosted by the Union.
2- Forming Youth Creativity Committee, which hosted 6 Youth Forums, and the first Jordan–China forum in Xi'an, the place of the first Arab–Chinese caravan, in 2015.
3- A colloquium on violence at universities under the patronage of Princess Sana Asem.
4- A colloquium on combating extremism with Greater Amman Municipality and Jesser for Human Rights.
5- A colloquium on the relation between culture and media.
6- A colloquium on library science and its role in a globalize world.
7- Organizing the Jordan–China Cultural forum in cooperation with the Embassy of China under the title Silk Road, by Land and Sea, 18th, Dec, 2016.

Third, Competitions:
1- Adulations of the Prophet Competition during Ramadan, 2014.
3- The Great Arab Revolt Competition held during the Arab Revolt Centenary.
4- Namir bin Adwan Competition, first version.
The most prominent activities and programmes implanted by NGOs and in cooperation with governmental institutions:

- Prominent Projects supported by the Ministry of Culture financially and logistically include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Organizer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Amman International Book Fair</td>
<td>Union of Jordanian Publishers</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Azraq Festival</td>
<td>Azraq Cultural Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fuheis Festival</td>
<td>Fuheis Cultural Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Shabib Festival</td>
<td>Shabib Society of Arts and Culture</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sufi Song Festival</td>
<td>Jordanian Music Forum</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Al Khalidiya Festival for Nabataean Poetry</td>
<td>Ministry of Culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Sabha and Ad Dafyanah Festival</td>
<td>Sabha and Ad Dafyanah Manucipality</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Busira Festival</td>
<td>Busira Cultural Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Ar Ramtha Arabic Poetry Festival</td>
<td>Ar Ramtha Cultural Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Kingdom of Peace Folklore Festival</td>
<td>Folklore theatre Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Amman Theatre Days Festival</td>
<td>Fuwanis Theatre Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>The Free Theatre Nights Festival</td>
<td>The Free Theatre Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Theatre Rituals Evenings</td>
<td>Theatre Rituals Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Az Zarqa Arts and Culture Festival</td>
<td>Az Zarqa Arts Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>As Samer Festival</td>
<td>Ministry of Culture and Ar Rajef Group</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Issues and UNESCO Priorities

- **Gender Equality:**
  1. Raising Jordanian family awareness of cultural issues.
  2. Strengthening cooperation between workers in cultural institutions and industries to build the capacities of each.
  3. Creating a pluralistic culture based on human rights and rejection of violence and extremism.
  4. Supporting Jordanian writers financially and morally.
  5. Creating networks of exchange between intellectuals.
  6. Promoting communication between parties involved in cultural development, and enhancing their skills and experiences through exposing them to various forms of art.
  7. Acceptance of the other is an ideal that teaches respect to other cultures and helps promote protection of cultural diversity.

- **Women’s Role in Culture:**

  Women has a special role in the domains of creativity and cultural expression. She also benefits from being involved in the cultural life. There are many programmes implemented by the Ministry that targets women in particular, such as:
  1) Establishing many cultural organizations by women in various governorates in the Kingdom.
  2) Jordanian women active participation in colloquia, workshops, lecture, conferences, and forums whether by attending or through working papers and interventions, and whether in Jordan or abroad.
  3) Women participate in competitions launched by the Ministry of Culture, which include Ministry of Culture Creativity Awards for the years 2015–2016. In 2015 in the first session, two women won for their work in the children literature and theatre drama.
the second session, two women won for their work in novels and T.V, drama
scenario. Moreover, women participate in National Encouragement Awards and Youth
Creativity competition. Women are on selection boards and juries, examining and
evaluating works.

4) Women are involved in cultural festivals held by governmental institutions represented
by the Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Greater Amman
Municipality and many others, such as Jarash Festival, and other festivals that are
held year-round in all governorate. Women are either participants or members of
organizing or supervising committees.

5) Supporting the publication of the works of women writers and intellectuals.

6) Jordanian women represent Jordan in international literary, art, and cultural diversity
events, in addition to participating in Jordanian folklore arts groups as carriers of
Jordanian heritage to the world, such as Salt Women Group.

UNESCO youth strategy

UNESCO youth strategy is present in projects, programmes, and initiatives implemented
and supported annually by the Ministry of culture such as:

1) A cultural national award titled Culture Tolerance and Temperance Award, which is
bestowed on Youth engaged in creative production.

2) Producing a series of documentary films on pluralism and tolerance, and training
young talents, and creating Youth Creativity Competition.

3) Jordan Theatre Festival, which aims for developing young theatre expertise in
Jordan.

4) The Ministry’s Fine arts training centers programmes and Vocational Training
Centers in all governorates, which play a major role in supporting youth and building
their capacities in various cultural industries.

5) Supporting and publishing the literary productions of youth in all fields.
In General, projects and programmes aim for:

1. Raising youth participation in discussions on tolerance and extremism.
3. Presenting local and world examples of diversity, and its benefits.
4. Diversifying strategies for integrating youth into a culture of tolerance and promoting it among young people, and training them on communication, dialogue and acceptance skills, in addition to making these polices a standard within institutions concerned with youth, and encouraging youth creativity.
5. Recognizing and nurturing talents.
6. Honoring talents by bestowing financial and symbolic awards, and involving competitions the struggle against negative social behaviors and extremism.
7. Giving talented students without means the opportunity to join regular art class.

Section 7. Achievements, challenges, solutions and future steps:

Since its establishment, The Ministry of Culture has played a pioneering role in nurturing culture and creativity in Jordan. It contributed to magnifying cultural activity in Jordan through implementing and supporting many programmes and annual events, in particular ones related to diversity of cultural expression. It can be said that all the Ministry’s programmes, event, and activities lead to the protection and promotion of cultural diversity. This diversity is a cornerstone of the Ministry’s policies, and is a part of cultural activity in general under constitutions. Of these programmes and achievement, we mention:

- Public programmes such as Jordanian Family Library programme, Cities of Culture, Mobile children Library, Mobile Theatrical Lab, and cultural centers.
- Intercultural dialogue programmes, and anti-asterism and tolerance, temperance, and pluralism programmes.
- Organizing projects, conferences, forums, and colloquia.
- Participating in Cultural Weeks in other countries, book fairs, conferences, and cultural activities, as well as opening up to world cultures.
- Jordan’s membership in the UN Alliance of Civilizations political initiative.

**Challenges:**

1. Inadequacy of infrastructure necessary for vitalizing cultural activity.
2. Economic hardships facing creators and intellectuals.
3. Limited participation of private sector in funding cultural activities.
5. Lack of public awareness of the importance of developing culture as a resource of sustainable development.
6. Lack of coordination between governmental institutions and NGOs working on prompting diversity, which leads to weaken these efforts.

**Solutions and Future Steps**

- Increasing the Ministry’s budget to enable the implementation of its yearly plans, bearing in mind that the budget allots a very small amount sufficient only for a small portion of its projects.
- Training workers in domains of culture and raising their capacities.
- Setting in motion agreements of cooperation signed with other countries, and furthering such cooperation.
- Raising awareness of the role the Ministry plays in supporting artists and intellectuals.
• Raising awareness of the aims of the 2005 conventions in Jordanian institutions, NGOs, schools universities, and individuals. In addition, raising awareness of the nature of cultural diversity in Jordan, and the role the ministry plays in promoting both the Convention and Jordanian diversity.

• Organizing training of trainers workshops.

• Organizing cultural diversity festival annually in cooperation with local NGOs and other counties.

• Organizing a conference on cultural diversity and inter-civilizational dialogue.

• Creating networks between Ministries of the Kingdom and connecting their efforts in promoting cultural diversity.

• Periodical evaluation of governmental policies, and finding points of strength and weaknesses in them.

• Incentivizing youth to engage in cultural diversity.

• Building partnerships with the private sector to support cultural projects, in particular projects encouraging cultural diversity. May this support be financial or logistical through providing venues or faulting the functions of implementing bodies, particularly the Ministry of Culture.

• Establishing a special unit for cultural diversity within the department of Heritage.