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# ALLIANCES IN ACTION

## ALLIANCE FOR JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT (INJAZ)

### DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

Arab nations have some of the world's youngest populations, but experience the highest youth unemployment rates. An estimated 100 million jobs must be created over the next 20 years to employ these youth, but the challenge is not just in job creation. Often times, the national education systems are not adequately preparing graduates for the needs of today's workplace. This problem is particularly acute in oil-producing states that fail to adequately diversify their economic base.

### BUSINESS CHALLENGE

Students in key countries are often not prepared or qualified for even basic, entry level positions. Businesses have to compensate by either hiring from outside the region or training local workforce which drives up costs and drives down productivity.

### APPROACH

INJAZ al-Arab is a private sector-led initiative to mentor and cultivate the next generation of Arab business leaders. Leading corporations, USAID, the Middle East Partnership Initiative, and ministries of education have joined forces to send senior-level corporate volunteers to share their professional experience, know-how, and success stories with Arab youth. Students learn how the banking sector supports business and industry, how to manage their own budgets and follow stocks, and even set up a model enterprise with a business plan from company startup to final liquidation. Both in-country and multinational business have shown increasing interest in participating in INJAZ as means of inspiring a culture of entrepreneurialism and business innovation among Arab youth.

### PARTNERS



To see more Alliances In Action, visit [www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov)



### RESULTS

- 900 Jordanians currently teach over 40,000 university students.
- 4,000 students mentored each year in Egypt and Lebanon.
- Over 300,000 students graduated from INJAZ courses.
- 101 public schools adopted through the School Adoption Program.
- Network of 9,000 business professionals from the private sector engaged in mentoring youth.

### FAST FACTS

START: 2004    END: 2009

PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS:

\$12,955,122

December 2009