



**AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY
OF BEIRUT**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arab Alliance for CSO Development program at AUB extends civil society support to Morocco, Iraq, and Kuwait

The Arab Alliance for CSO Development (AACSD), a flagship program of the Non-Governmental Organizations Initiative (NGOi) at the American University of Beirut (AUB), announced the launch of its second cycle in Morocco, Iraq, and Kuwait. Following a successful inaugural cycle in Egypt, Tunisia, and Jordan in 2022, AACSD continues its commitment to strengthening civil society organizations (CSOs) across the Arab World.

Small to medium-sized CSOs based and operating in the three selected countries, are encouraged to apply to enroll in the program. AACSD's second cycle is set to commence its activities in January 2024, with a selection of 15 CSOs from Morocco, Iraq, and Kuwait. These CSOs will benefit from fully funded NGOi service packages over a period of 12-18 months. All fees associated with the program's services will be waived for the selected CSOs.

AACSD's service portfolio is tailored to meet the unique needs of CSOs operating in the region. This includes institutional strengthening and organizational development, capacity building, contextualization and Arabization, knowledge sharing, and organizational certification. These comprehensive services aim to empower CSOs to better serve their communities.

Interested applicants can check [here](#) the eligibility criteria and apply before November 15, 2023.

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The AACCSOD Program:

Supported by both the Ford Foundation and the Asfari Foundation, the Arab Alliance for CSO Development (AACCSOD) was founded with the mission to serve as a pivotal force in enhancing the institutional capacities of CSOs throughout the Arab World. Through its extensive network of more than 100 partners and stakeholders, AACCSOD has quickly established itself as a regional hub for the NGO sector development, capacity building, and institutional strengthening.

AACCSOD's primary objectives encompass expanding NGO's reach into 12 new countries within the MENA region over a period of 5 years, creating a versatile multi-sectoral partnership model that engages over 100 funders, experts, and implementing partners, offering substantial support to at least 60 NGOs/CSOs in the designated countries, and developing a suite of 24 online asynchronous courses in English, Arabic, and French, designed to empower CSOs with essential knowledge and resources for effective NGO management.

AACCSOD's commitment to the development and strengthening of CSOs in the Arab World stands as a testament to the importance of civil society in driving positive change. As the program embarks on its second cycle, it aspires to make an even greater impact, fostering resilient, impactful, and sustainable CSOs that can effectively address the region's evolving challenges.

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Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 800 full-time faculty members and a student body of over 8000 students. AUB currently offers more than 120 programs leading to bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full-service 365-bed hospital.

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