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DESIRE

Development of Higher Education Teaching Modules on the
Socio-economic Impacts of the Renewable Energy Implementation



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DESIRE Newsletter

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Dissemination Workshops



GCREEDER Conference (Amman, Jordan)

Under the patronage of His Royal Highness, Prince Hamzah bin Al Hussein inaugurates the 6th Global Conference on Renewable Energy Efficiency for Desert Regions (GCREEDER 2018) at the University of Jordan (UoJ). The conference looks for the participation of local and international energy experts and academics.

The opening ceremony featured remarks from Dr. Saleh Al-Kharabsheh, Jordan's Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources; Prof. Azmi Mahafzah, President of UoJ; and Prof. Abeer Al-Bawab, General Director of the Scientific Research Support Fund (SRSF). Also at the ceremony, HRH Prince Hamzah presented the honor trophies to the conference sponsors and guests of honor, including Prof. Ala'aldeen Al-Halhouli, DESIRE's Project Coordinator.

The exhibition included different Energy Service Companies (ESCOs), in addition to the funded projects by the European Union that partnered with UoJ, where DESIRE had a booth among them. Prince Hamzah bin Al Hussein toured the exhibition passing by the DESIRE booth and was interested to know more about the project, where the DESIRE team from German Jordanian University (GJU) provided him with an overview.

The three-day event focused on the applications and technologies of renewable energy for desert regions and devoted a number of sessions to address investments in renewable energy regulations and policies. The DESIRE partners from Damascus University (DU) and Tishreen University (TU) participated in the dissemination event during the first day of the conference.

During the first day, the DESIRE team from GJU with the help of the DESIRE partners provided an overview about the DESIRE project to the visitors and the interested entities, companies and stakeholders. The team kept various participants up to date with the DESIRE activities by encouraging them to join the DESIRE network.

On the second day, the DESIRE team held a session to present the work performed by students from UoJ who enrolled in one of DESIRE modules. Six scientific reports were presented on different topics related to the socio-economic impact of renewable energy and energy efficiency. They included statistics regarding some of the renewable energy projects in Jordan.

Dr. Gabriella Calderari, of Sapienza University of Rome (UNIROMA1), hosted a workshop about the DESIRE e-learning platform targeted for the project's beneficiary universities. Dr. Calderari explained the main points of the e-learning platform such as accounts creation and course editing and implementation.

EU Funded Projects Workshop was also held during the second day of the conference where dissemination and implementation lectures were provided by the projects' project coordinators. Nouf Al-Heyari from GJU, on the behalf of Prof. Al-Halhouli, presented an introduction about the DESIRE project to the attendees, its goals and the socio-economic impact on society such as job creation, increasing the international exports and reducing fuel imports, illustrating the importance of renewable energy in achieving growth and sustainability.

GJU Campus (Amman, Jordan)

On Tuesday the 9th of January 2018, the School of Applied Technical Sciences (SATS) at the GJU organized dissemination workshop for the DESIRE project that was co-funded by the Erasmus+ program of the European Union for the development of higher education teaching modules on the Socio-economic Impacts of Renewable Energy implementation.

GJU's Vice President Prof. Atef Al-Kharabsheh said in his opening remarks that the DESIRE modules' teaching material is necessary to cover the increasing demand for energy in the Middel East and North Africa (MENA) region. Prof. Al-Kharabsheh added that by joint efforts of the institutions from the MENA region and the EU though financial support of the Erasmus+ program, six teaching materials on the subject of socioeconomic aspects of the renewable energy and energy efficiency will be provided.

The Dean of SATS at the time and the current DESIRE Project's Coordinator Prof. Al-Halhouli said that the aim of the workshop is to discuss the project's results, outputs, and the latest achievements; he stated that the progress over the last year was great and the evaluation reports were very encouraging and motivating.

The then Project Coordinator, Dr. Louy Qoaidar, presented the DESIRE project's highlighted and the main objectives of the program in providing a high quality education for MENA students in the key aspects of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (REEE). Dr. Qoaidar spoke of the importance of implementing the prepared teaching materials at higher education institutions, disseminating the teaching materials through the DESIRE e-learning



platform, and training the academic staff and students. Additionally, Dr. Qoaidar specified the impacts expected from the project and progress achieved since the beginning of the program, mentioning that teaching materials for six university courses and training materials for academics and students were developed, and more than 50 individuals received a training.

German Friendship Association's visit to GJU



On Thursday March 29th 2018, Dipl.-Ing Helmut Henseler, Prof. Anton Mangstl. former Vice President of GJU, and the German Jordanian Society members visited the GJU.

The delegation received a warm welcome by the GJU President Prof. Manar Fayyad followed by a briefing on the current affairs at the university by GJU's Vice President Prof. Dr. Dorit Schuman. The delegates had the opportunity to gain further insight into GJU's activities and projects. They were introduced to the EU funded projects running at GJU including the DESIRE project. Prof. Al-Halhouli presented the project objectives, running activities, expected results and achieved tasks. Lastly, the project's sustainability and importance for the region was discussed.

Implementation of the DESIRE Modules

At GCREEDER

The prepared DESIRE teaching modules were implemented during the CGREEDER conference. The DESIRE partners' representatives lectured a plethora of students on various socio-economic impacts of renewable energy. Details can be seen in the table below.

DESIRE Module	Lecturer DESIRE Partner	Institution	Number of Students
Health, wellbeing, and environmental quality	Dr. Amal Dayoub	TU	13
Climate effects, environmental management and sustainable development	Prof. Moussa AlSamara	TU	13
Energy market structures and stakeholders	Philipp Hauser	TUD	6
Energy market structures and stakeholders	Matthew Schmidt	TUD	6
Technological innovations of renewable energy sources	Dr. George Konstantinou	UCY	15
Job creation	Dr. George Konstantinou	UCY	15



At partner universities

1. Implementation of the DESIRE Basic Module – Energy Transition & Socio-economics during the first semester 2018/2017 at the UoJ. Courses were presented by Prof. Ahmed Al-Salaymeh (UoJ), Dr. Louy Qoaider (GJU), and Dr. Thomas Fink (WI).
2. Training Workshop on Energy Transition & Socio-economics at TU.
3. Training Workshop on Climate Effects, Environmental Management and Sustainable Development in REEE at TU.
4. Training Workshop on Health, Wellbeing and Environmental Quality in REEE at TU.
5. Training Workshop on Climate Effects, Environmental Management and Sustainable Development at TU.
6. Training Workshop on Climate Effects, Environmental Management and Sustainable Development at DU.

Steering Committee Meeting (Amman, Jordan)

The 5th DESIRE project's biannual and steering committee meeting was held in Amman, Jordan at the UoJ campus on April 5th, 2018, during the third day of GCREEDER conference. The DESIRE partners from the GJU, UoJ, University of Cyprus (UCY), UNIROMA1, Wuppertal Institute (WI), Technical University of Dresden (TUD), DU, and TU participated in the meeting.

The DESIRE Project Coordinator, Prof. Al-Halhouli, inaugurated the meeting and welcomed the participants. In the first session, the project partners presented their progress and results of their assigned work packages over the past six months. In the second session, a general discussion was held on the elaboration of the teaching materials, teaching plan, the e-learning platform, the scheduling of the



training of trainers (ToT), dissemination workshops and the next steering committee meeting, attempting to finalize the project and to meet all the objectives.

EU's Delegation's Visit to GJU



On Wednesday March 28th, 2018, an EU delegation headed by Mr. Michael A. Köhler, Director Neighbourhood, Directorate-General for Development Cooperation of the European Commission visited the GJU as part of two-day visit to Jordan. The delegation visited EU funded laboratories at GJU. In addition, they have been introduced to the three Erasmus+ plus projects running at the School of Applied Technical Sciences: DESIRE, EGREEN, and AT-SGIREs.

The Project's Coordinator, Prof. Al-Halhouli, and his team presented project's objectives, expected results, achieved tasks and plans. In addition, Mr. Köhler and Prof. Manar Fayyad, GJU's President, discussed the importance of these projects in the development of the higher education at the partner universities. Mr. Köhler emphasized on strategies to ensure that the impacts of these projects will be sustained beyond the projects' lifetime.

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Upcoming Events and Conferences:

- * Training of Trainers in Nicosia, Cyprus – June 27-29 ,2018
- * Steering Committee Meeting in Rome, Italy – July 9-10 ,2018
- * Training of Trainers in Rome, Italy – July 11-13 ,2018
- * Training of Trainers in Dresden, Germany – August 1-3 ,2018

PARTNERS



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الجامعة الألمانية الأردنية
German Jordanian University



**Wuppertal
Institut**



University
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SAPIENZA
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DESIRE Project



DESIRE Project Group



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