

Participants:

Ms. Helena Puhakka-Tarvainen, Karelia University of Applied Sciences

Ms. Janita Ylitalo, Karelia University of Applied Sciences

Day 1 / Sunday 12th Nov**NERC (National Energy Research Center)**

<http://www.nerc.gov.jo>

On our first arrival day to Amman, we had a meeting at National Energy Research Center NERC, the main partner of Karelia in FINPETRA project (cooperation since February 2016). NERC is part of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), founded in 1970. Operations are focused on renewable energy and energy efficiency. NERC is involved with various projects, one of the biggest ones is MINARET, funded by Swedish SIDA. Second ongoing big project is introduction of solar energy to school buildings (national program in Jordan), total 5 years 60 + 100 schools. NERC has one pilot windfarm in South of Jordan. We had a presentation on NERC's new solar panel farms and "Green Building", which is under construction.

NERC and Karelia will organize a joint bioenergy Conference in Amman in October 2018.



From the left: Eng. Suhaib Ababneh, Eng. Nidal Abdalla, Helena Puhakka-Tarvainen, Eng. Walid Shahin (Director), Janita Ylitalo



From the left: Helena Puhakka-Tarvainen, Eng. Suhaib Ababneh, Eng. Hamzah Yakhol and Eng. Anas Nasser

Day 2 / Monday 13th Nov

Swiss Agency for Development and Corporation (SDC), Swiss Confederation

SDC is funding mostly humanitarian projects in the region, also in North Africa. They have own office in Syria. SDC has three focuses in all their work (<https://www.eda.admin.ch/deza/en/home/sdc.html>):

- Basic needs
- Protection (crisis)
- Water, sanitation (including biogas; cooperated with RSS in ground water vulnerability maps)

SDC has close cooperation with GIZ (Germans), USAID, SIDA (Sweden), JICA (Japanese) and AFD (French). On 6th December will launch new program, 15 years/5.1 MEUR, with Swiss and German NGOs (Proposal draft name: "Sanitation Solutions for Underserved Communities in Jordan"). Second big project is the Blue Peace in the Middle East (www.cevas.org) "Water Start-Up Programme & Innovation Trainings for Humanitarian WASH in the Middle East". Important to differ non-profit vs. profit, businesses must be involved in a "light matter", they must have a humanitarian solution. SDC, among all other organizations, is worried about the decreation of environment after the (Syrian) war.



Helena Puhakka-Tarvainen, Mr. Mufleh Alalaween Al Abbadi, Regional Water Specialist, SDC

Day 2 / Monday 13th Nov

UNOPS

UNOPS Jordan introduced us their activities in the region. UNOPS JORDAN serves Jordan, Iraq, Jemen, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Turkey. Their procurement hub in Copenhagen (procurement advisors). We went through the UNGM (UN Global Marketplace) procedure (registration, alerts, compliancy etc.). UN also prefers to make long-term agreements (LTA), e.g. this year have made 7 LTAs in region. New! UN web buy plus -application (<https://www.unops.org/english/Services/Procurement/Pages/UN-Web-Buy.aspx>), which is developed to serve with complex standards and is used for humanitarian products. All UN offices have access to web buy plus, also donors, global banks. It is a quick and fast procedure for direct buying.

FINPETRA project will organize half-day training for companies around UN procurement procedures (23rd January 2018, Joensuu, Finland). Registration and programme at the project website.



From the left: Isabella Vettolani, Partnership and Coordination Officer, Flora Hajdini, Procurement and Supply Chain Specialist, Helena Puhakka-Tarvainen, Janita Ylitalo

Day 3 / Tuesday 14th Nov**PSUT (Princess Sumaya University of Technology)**

<http://www.psut.edu.jo/>

We introduced both Universities and discussed about the possibility to start student exchange especially in the computer science and computer graphics and animation. PSUT Computer Science has started in 2010; Information Security is unique in Jordan, started in 2011. Computer graphics and design since 2007, combining arts and graphics, students study also programming, success stories like <http://www.chickmania.com> , <http://tamatem.co/> . We will quickly explore the Erasmus process to have 1-3 students to Joensuu, Finland, for the summer 2018 (June-October is best time), traineeships in local ICT-companies. When students are more than 3 months in Finland, visa process is longer. Helena and Janita discussed the issue with Honorary Consul General of Finland (to have one contact person in the Embassy). We will also explore other fields of study, like tourism projects.



Left picture from the left: Dr. Ayman Faza, Dr. Ghazi Al-Naymat, Helena Puhakka-Tarvainen, Janita Ylitalo, Leila Rawashdeh, Dr. Mohammad Al-Zoube, Dr. Sufyan Almajali



Right picture, on the right: Dr. Rahdi Hamadeen

Day 3 / Tuesday 14th Nov**Omnitrade / Consulate General of Finland**

Mr. Rakan Rshaidat is Managing Director and Pharmacist in Charge at Omnitrade, company having two business lines – Pharmaceuticals and Paper and Board. Already his father has been the Honorary Consul General of Finland and Mr. Rakan continues his steps. We introduced FINPETRA project and our cooperation plans between the Universities. We discussed about the visa-options for possible traineeship exchange. Visa up to 3 months is easy, longer times require residence permit (Finnish Embassy in Ankara), but according to Honorary Consul General of Finland they are manageable. Honorary Consul General of Finland was also inviting Finnish companies to have a satellite office in Jordan. We introduced North Karelian companies to Mr., Rshaidat and invited Consul to visit Joensuu when next time in Finland.



From the left: Mr. Firas Numan Rshaidat, Helena Puhakka-Tarvainen, Janita Ylitalo, Mr. Rakan N. Rshaidat, Honorary Consul General of Finland in Jordan

Day 3 / Tuesday 14th Nov

We had contacted before our travelling to Amman with Vilhelmiina Vekeli, a Finnish internationalization expert living in Amman, having an interesting background at Finpro and UN in various countries. We had dinner with Vilhelmiina ja her husband, Mark Handloff, (Political Officer, Embassy of the United States of America) and will stay in contact after the trip for future cooperation.



Vilhelmiina Vekeli and Mark Handloff

Day 4 / Wednesday 15th Nov**FAO representation of Jordan (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations)**

We were introduced to FAO Jordan's projects, especially the biogas project for waste management in Al-Zaatar refugee camp. Funding is from EU, 3.3 MEUR (1.1.2016-13.12.2018), "Improving rural livelihoods, environmental conditions and green jobs through integrated benefit from the remnants of organic waste and treated sewage wastewater and solid waste to produce compost in the Jordanian governorate of Mafraq". Project has had 7 Jordanian ministries involved. German stakeholders have been helping with biogas standards and background studies (German-Jordan University; German biogas association is the best in the world, 4000 members). Report from the project is soon handed over to experts (not public yet). In addition to FINPETRA project, we introduced ENO program (Environment Online), a tree-planting project which is established by one school teacher at our region 20 years ago.



From the left: Wafa'a Alramadneh, Tony Robert Gikuhi, Janita Ylitalo

Day 4 / Wednesday 15th Nov**NERC (National Energy Research Center)**

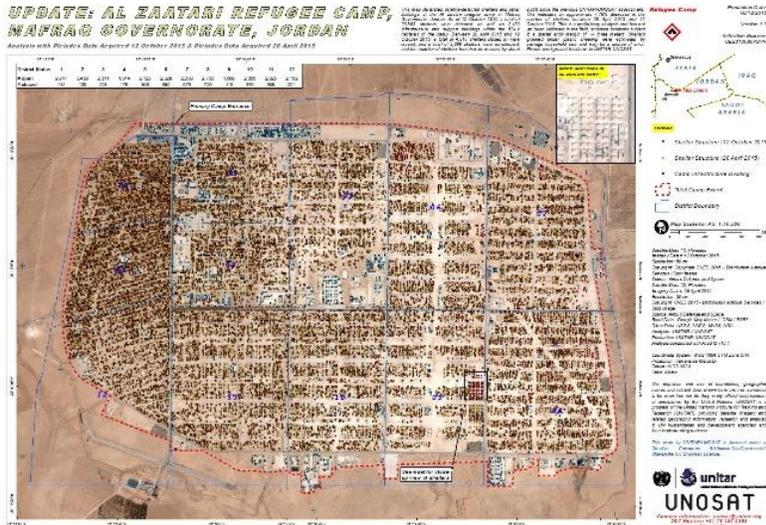
We had a follow-up meeting at NERC to discuss deeper about the upcoming bioenergy conference in Amman. (It has been decided after the meeting that the conference will take place during 9-10 October 2018).

Day 5 / Thursday 16th Nov**ACTED**

We introduced FINPETRA project to ACTED, one of the biggest Non-governmental organizations in Jordan. We had an interesting presentation on how ACTED works in Jordan and what kind of project they have. ACTED has 400 workers in Jordan (50 international, 350 locals); work in camps and host communities. With Unicef they take care of water management in Al-Zaatar refugee camp (80 000 refugees living there). All together about 60 organizations work in Al-Zaatar (led by UNHCR and SRAD). 35 l/person water is provided per day, 350 m deep wells, people are scared to drink chlorinated water (wrong beliefs), water is not more than 6 days old in the tanks. ACTED is also doing big effort in ITS communities (Informal Tented Settlements), filtering water, portable solar electricity. They train farmers on food value chains, how water is used, food processing. Jordan has phosphorus mines; land in North is very good for agriculture (more stable greenhouses). Are training e.g. women to do repair and maintenance work at home (strange man cannot enter the home for repair work). All projects must be approved by MoPIC (Ministry of Planning & International Cooperation). ACTED HQ takes care of the procurement procedure; no straight buys outside region but retail.



From the left: Helena Puhakka-Tarvainen, Natalie Davirro, Franciscus Louwers



Map from the Al-Zaatari refugee camp, 80 000 people. Al-Zaatari is now moving from emergency setting to more stable official settlement (streets, infrastructure, services).

Day 5 / Thursday 16th Nov

City of Badia (North Jordan)

We introduced FINPETRA project and our network in Jordan. We heard useful information about community scale project implementation in Badia region. The community owns a land, where will be 24 flats for low-income Jordanians /Syria refugees (6 buildings for 4 flats). Energy production and waste management solutions for the setup are under consideration (e.g. small-scale biogas production, solar). Possibility for a site visit during next trip in Jordan.



From the left: Mr. Ala’Aldin Falah Kraida Almoaly, Helena Puhakka-Tarvainen