

The Arab Institute for Studies and Communication

An independent, non-profit, region-wide institution whose aim is to promote social science and policy research, and research organizations in the Arab world

PROFILE

The Arab Institute for Studies and Communication (AISC) is an independent, non-profit institution currently active in Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan, and Palestine. It was founded in 1998 by a group of senior social scientists from various regional leading institutions to develop research organizations and assist researchers in the Arab world and beyond.

OBJECTIVES

- 1- To provide capacity-building support and documentation services to the regional research community.
- 2- To promote joint and inter-Arab research on issues of common interest to the region.
- 3- To organize research reviews, state of the field assessments and designing of joint research agendas.
- 4- To enhance research and analytical skills.
- 5- To facilitate publication, distribution and dissemination of printed and electronic social science studies.
- 6- To set-up a network of cooperation, dialogue & exchange.
- 7- To help pooling resources for increased effectiveness.
- 8- To support the Arabic language as a social science research and communication tool.

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES FOR THREE YEARS

During the first three years, the implementation of the objectives will focus on four main areas:

- 1) **Research development workshops:** AISC will organize several workshops where senior scholars and younger researchers will share their research experience and evaluate research results. They will discuss conceptual and methodological problems as well as collaborative research projects, while exploring new research tools and frontiers.
- 2) **Electronic networking and publishing program:** the program will develop the joint website <assr.org> and applications for on-line work providing technical assistance and training. It will also produce a periodic summary of current research and on-going projects.
- 3) **Research dissemination program:** the program will facilitate a better local and regional circulation of research results and publications through activities such as:

- Editing and printing a joint publications catalogue of the research organizations, and
 - Promoting written reviews of and televised round tables about major research publications and projects in the region.
- 4) **Researchers exchange program:** The program will organize short-term internships and visiting positions in institutions to benefit young researchers in the region thus enhancing regional transfer of technology. It will explore broader exchange programs for more advanced researchers in order to promote interaction and cooperation between the region and the international scholarly community.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Arab Institute for Studies and Communication is incorporated in Lebanon and governed by a Board of Trustees. An Administration Committee of four members leads the overall implementation of the yearly program with the support of an Executive Secretariat.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The Arab Institute for Studies and Communication is funded through unconditional donations and grants by international and regional organizations, and through partial cost recovery of the services it provides.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board members currently serving are:

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In Palestine: Salah Eddin Street, Nablus
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- Participating jointly in major annual Arab book fairs,
- Negotiating contracts with efficient distributors in each country for research publications from other countries,

* Members of the Administration Committee