We have the ability, the training and the resources to make a difference, not just in our own lives, but in the lives of others. If we do not make use of those skills, we have failed in our responsibilities. I challenge you each to find a way to make a difference in the lives of others.

John D. Gerhart
Table of Contents

Message from the Director ................................................................. 4
About the Gerhart Center ................................................................. 6
A Year at a Glance ............................................................................. 10
  Youth Leadership Activities ......................................................... 11
  Capacity Building and Advisory Services .................................. 17
  Conferences and Roundtables ..................................................... 20
  Research and Publications .......................................................... 22
Networking Events .......................................................................... 24
  Global Events ............................................................................... 25
  National Events ........................................................................... 27
Our Success Partners ....................................................................... 28
Message from the Director
This year the center has grown with remarkable developments in various fields towards community development and social responsibility. With every year passing, we are keen to build on the core foundation which has been established in the past couple of years.

Believing that sharing knowledge is a dynamic aspect, building solid partnerships was one of the core focuses of the center. We were able to expand our ecosystem by collaborating up with several entities such as UN Global Compact Egypt, and organizing round-tables and conferences with partners enabling us to share the knowledge with our ecosystem.

We also continued our advancement and development by embarking on new youth programs such as: Sawa Netgama’a, and enhancing existing programs such as Ma’an Arab University Alliance for Civic Engagement, Lazord fellowship and Tashbeek. Through those youth programs, we are increasing the number of fellows and introducing new services.

As part of the Gerhart Center’s efforts to promote responsible business practice, this year marked the launching of our Corporate Social Responsibility services for the private sector. Recently, the center added a distinct service designing social responsibility strategy that aligns with corporate business models.

The achievements of 2017 will pave the path to more successes to come as we strive to develop and expand through development and implementation of new programs and initiatives.

Ali Awni
The John D. Gerhart Center for Philanthropy, Civic Engagement and Responsible Business promotes social change in the Arab region through building a culture of effective giving, corporate social responsibility and civic responsibility. Building on social value, the center serves as a source of knowledge, a cultivator of partnerships, and a catalyst for innovation, community engagement and a heightened sense of citizenship and social responsibility.

Mission

Serve as a regional incubator for research excellence, knowledge transfer and capacity building to promote effective social responsibility.
Vision

Contribute to a thriving Arab region through linking the dynamics of philanthropy, civic engagement, and responsible business.

Philanthropy  Civic Engagement  Responsible Business

To strengthen social responsibility in the Arab Region
Objectives

- Linking between responsible citizens and civil society, as well as between the private and public sectors
- Creating a collaborative platform for programs and research that promote civic engagement, philanthropy and responsible business

Values

- Respect
- Transparency
- Proactivity
- Compassion, empathy and giving
- Inclusion and participatory engagement
A Year at a Glance
Youth Leadership Activities

Ma’an Arab University Alliance Regional Competition

More than 13 universities from across the Arab region participated in the Ma’an Regional Competition this year. This competition seeks to acknowledge the efforts and amplify the voices of civil society leaders, providing them with a platform to share their endeavors with specialists in the field. In a fun and competitive environment, the six finalist universities had the opportunity to present their projects and compete for a grant of 3500 USD, which will help them implement innovative solutions and guarantee sustainability for their civic engagement venture. This event encourages the exchange of best practices, offers experience in overcoming challenges, and bolsters youth potential through civic engagement.
In partnership with the United States Institute of Peace (USIP), the Gerhart Center has implemented a sixteen-month youth initiatives incubator working on issues of dialogue, refugee integration, life skills for children, and the role of women in rural communities. The program equipped 30 young leaders from more than 14 governorates in the areas of challenges analysis, initiative design and planning, proposal writing and project management. The participants were then supported financially through mini-grants, and technically by field practitioners. Four different youth initiatives were implemented in Cairo, Alexandria, and Upper Egypt.

“The Community Lab”: Towards Collaborative Problem-Solving
The Ma’an Arab University Alliance team organized an award ceremony to acknowledge the top five finalists with the best initiatives in the areas of women’s empowerment, entrepreneurship, health and human rights, to support the implementation of their initiatives. The winning teams were selected by a panel of judges chosen from the 20 teams from 11 Egyptian universities who participated in the Ma’an Arab University Alliance Competition.
More than 1000 applicants applied for the Lazord Fellowship for 2016–2017. Twenty-two fellows from different governorates and backgrounds were accepted. During the year the fellowship delivered a total of 20 different modules for the fellows, discussing topics such as civic leadership, community engagement, project management, research skills, and financial and legal literacy. With the support of more than 20 community partners, the fellows were able to experience first-hand work in development, adding value to the organizations with which they joined. In order to broaden the fellows’ exposure to different developmental models, field visits were organized to the Kher w Baraka organization in Ezbet Khairallah and Alashanek Ya Balady in Ismailia. The participants produced three research reports addressing core issues in civil society, such as blended learning, psychological support for aid workers, and assessing the youth incubators working in impoverished areas.
The graduation recognized 10 fellows who successfully completed the fellowship for the year 2015–2016. This was the sixth Lazord graduating cohort. The fellowship offers a one-year placement at a nonprofit organization, as well as a capacity-building program and a mentoring program. The graduation hosted Ahmed Naguib, corporate social responsibility director at Finance & Banking Consultants International, who gave a speech titled “Not Giving Up: Perseverance and Resilience as Key Factors for Civic Leadership.” It also featured Alaa Idris, a member of the board of directors of the Science and Technology Development Fund and the chairman and chief knowledge officer of the Innovation Committee at Misr El-Kheir NGO, who focused on the role of research and innovation in the future of civil society.
This project aims to create a safe learning environment for primary stage students in public schools in Greater Cairo governorates, through interactive workshops about conflict resolution, gender acceptance and anger management. This year over 600 Egyptian and Syrian students from 6 different schools participated. More than 40 volunteers on the project were trained in facilitation skills, positive discipline for children, integration and dealing with anger and violence in school settings. As a sustainability component, the social and psychological workers of the schools were also trained on how to encourage civic engagement among students, support integration between Egyptian and Syrian communities, and better understand the emotions of challenged students.
Capacity Building and Advisory Services

Youth Leadership Workshops
Twelve workshops were conducted at the AUC Tahrir Campus for 65 students from eight public Egyptian universities who participated in Ma’an’s competition. The workshops were based on a needs assessment for the students’ initiatives presented during the competition. The purpose of the workshops was to provide the students with the basic skills for managing their initiatives, thus building a capable human cadre and a generation of entrepreneurs who are able to successfully manage productive social initiatives.

Regional Workshops for Youth in Jordan
The Ma’an Arab University Alliance conducted a two-day workshop for 40 university students on civic engagement and volunteerism in Jordan with the support of INJAZ Jordan. This workshop sought to prepare the students for work in civil society and to emphasize the importance of volunteer work.

Training in Partnership with SEED USAID
The John D. Gerhart Center, in collaboration with SEED USAID, ILO, and the Federation of Egyptian industries, conducted an eleven-day training course by eight trainers over four months. The aim of the training was to encourage companies to integrate Micro Small Medium Enterprise in the supply chain. The attendees came from more than fourteen corporations, including Raya Holding, Etisalat Egypt, the Housing and Development Bank, TE Data, Titan Cement Egypt, and others.
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Training

The John D. Gerhart Center for Philanthropy and Civic Engagement and Responsible Business, in cooperation with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, conducted a training program focusing on the topics of NGO management and partnerships. The training took place at the AUC Tahrir Campus over the course of one month.

Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services (CEOSS) Training

The capacity development unit at the John D. Gerhart Center conducted a training for CEOSS’ senior staff to enhance their profit-making projects. The topics included strategic planning, transformation process, change management, strategic leadership and marketing. The sessions took place in office in Cairo.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Advisory Services for Private Sector

As part of the Gerhart Center’s effort to promote responsible business practices, our Capacity Development unit is currently working on strategy creation and implementation plans, communications plans and flagship programs designed to support the social mission of these organizations in order to enhance their role in the civil community. All activities carried out by the unit aim to increase the private sector’s efficiency and effectiveness in dispensing their funds and managing their operations.
Community-Based Learning (CBL) Workshops for Public Universities’ Faculty Members

With the aim of promoting community-based learning (CBL) and civic participation in Egyptian universities, the Ma’an Arab University Alliance collaborated with three public universities—Assiut University, Minya University and Aswan University—to conduct CBL training for faculty members.

Community-Based Learning Online Trainings

Ma’an program produced an online video about Community-Based Learning (CBL) pedagogy. The video is intended to help university professors make the transition from simply lecturing to adopting active learning strategies, from simple activities to more complex approaches. It also explores simple design approaches, including hands-on examples of using course design for effective and engaging student learning. The video is divided into two workshops: the principles of CBL, and assessment of a CBL activity. The center also published a CBL manual, and produced four short videos about the manual that are currently published on Ma’an’s Facebook page.
The annual Takaful Research Conference has become a major opportunity to strengthen a growing network of scholars and practitioners working in the philanthropic and civic engagement field. Takaful 2017 built on the success of previous years and added several new features, such as Philanthropy and Leadership awards. This year the awards were presented to Yosriya Loza, Secretary General of the Sawiris Foundation for Social Development, and Hossam Badrawi, President of the Badrawi Foundation for Education and Development.
Gerhart Center Organizes its First SDGs Roundtable in Partnership with UN Global Compact Network Egypt and CARE Egypt

The SDGs Roundtable Series is jointly organized by the Gerhart Center, the UN Global Compact Network Egypt and Care International. The aim of the series is to launch a dynamic dialogue on the localization of SDGs in Egypt. This dialogue help to develop a shared understanding of priorities and prerequisites for their localization and implementation, including potential/expected roles and means of coordination, while bringing together civil society, the private sector, key government actors and other major stakeholders.

“Memorandum of Understanding” with UN Global Compact Network Egypt

The GCNE signed a MoU with the AUC Gerhart Center to commence their joint activities. Through the partnership, both parties will work on advancing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), building capacity, and raising awareness of the importance of corporate social responsibility. Raising awareness will be done through dialogue, research and training.
The purpose of the case studies is to document civic engagement practices, particularly community-based learning, at the target school, as well as providing information and presenting best practices in the region, including the initiatives of Ma’an university members and partners. The booklet includes the following case studies:

- Civic Engagement in AHFAD University, Sudan.
- Civic Engagement in Lebanese American University
- Civic Engagement in Jordan University, Amman

Foundations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Facts and Statistics (Arabic and English)

The King Khalid Foundation, in partnership with the John D. Gerhart Center, produced the first report of its kind in the Kingdom, titled “Foundations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Facts and Statistics.” The study presents donor organizations in terms of their nature, the amount and allocation of funding, major areas of focus, and average budgets.
Catalyzing Impact Investing: The Case of Emirates Foundation

This case study follows the restructuring process of the Emirates Foundation from a grant-making foundation to an enterprise-based or venture philanthropy one. The study explores the questions: How did the organization and management bring about this change? Was this transformation successful? What are the lessons learned?

Community-Based Learning Manual

Ma’an program published a Community-Based Learning (CBL) manual that defines CBL and highlights its importance and its impact. The manual also guides faculty members on how to integrate this pedagogy into the curriculum.

Civic Engagement Initiatives in Universities of the Arab World

Three needs-assessment studies have been published to map and evaluate the level of university engagement, the impact of related activities, and what can be done to improve the situation in Egypt, Lebanon and Sudan.
Networking Events

Global Events

- USA
- Canada
- Switzerland
- Lebanon
- Jordan
- KSA
- Mexico
Community Foundations Conference “Belong”
The Gerhart Center’s research officer attended the Community Foundations Conference in Ottawa, Canada.

Arab Forum Foundation Conference
Gerhart Center’s Capacity Building Manager attended the general assembly conference of the Arab Foundations Forum (AFF) which took place in Amman, Jordan.

PRME Seventh Regional Meeting/MENA
Director of Gerhart Center, participated in the regional meeting of PRME MENA region in Beirut.

Arab Forum Foundation General Assembly Meeting
Capacity Building Manager represented Gerhart Center at the general assembly of the Arab Foundations Forum (AFF), which took place at the American University in Beirut, Lebanon.

Foundations in the Kingdom Survey Launching Event
Director of Gerhart Center was one of the four speakers representing a number of non-profit organizations from inside and outside the kingdom in the Launching event of “Foundations in the Kingdom Survey” hosted by King Khaled foundation in Riyadh.
**WINGS Forum 2017**
Gerhart Center’s Research Advisor and Manager contributed to the WINGS Forum: Critical Philanthropy: Addressing Complexity, Challenging Ourselves in Mexico.

**Talloires Network Leaders Conference (TLNC)**
Ma’an Program Manager participated in the Talloires Network Leaders Conference held in Veracruz, Mexico.

**UN Forum on Business and Human Rights**
Director of the John D. Gerhart Center attended the Forum on Advancing Human Rights in Business Education in Geneva, Switzerland.

**2017 Global Forum for Responsible Management Education- Ten Years of Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME)**
Director of Gerhart Center was one of the contributors in the conference that was held in New York.

**ARNOVA 46th Annual Conference**
Gerhart Center Associate Director participated in Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA) 46th annual conference, held in Michigan.
The Dandara Cultural Center organized an economic forum on the theme “My Time, My Capital.” Director of the John D. Gerhart Center participated in a panel discussion on the importance of using time wisely.

Associate Director of Gerhart center contributed as a keynote speaker.

Director of the John D. Gerhart Center gave a talk on the utility and applicability of the index approach to measure Egypt’s performance in reaching SDGs.

Director of the John D. Gerhart Center moderated a panel on “Sustainable Village” in the third CSR forum.

Associate Director of the Gerhart center participated in a panel discussion on “The Role of CSR Academia and NGOs” in the third CSR Conference.
Partners and Organizations