



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



INVENT

INVENT - Promotion of Innovation Culture in the Higher Education in Jordan  
Project number: 561996-EPP-1-2015-1-JO-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

## **Innovation center at University of Jordan**

October 15, 2015 to December 31, 2017

The University of Jordan

Authors:

Prof. Ahmed Al-Salaymeh

Dr. Ashraf Bany Mohammad

Eng. Leena Marashdeh



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

## Contents

Overview .....	2
Introduction .....	2
Center Services.....	2
UJIEC Organizational Structure .....	3
Center Strategic plan.....	4
UJIEC Resources .....	4
Innovation and Entrepreneurship support process.....	5
Student Innovation Promotion .....	5
Innovation & Entrepreneurship Stakeholders at UJ .....	6
UJIEC Achievements to Date .....	7
UJIEC sustainability .....	7
Center communication tools.....	8
Photos for UJIEC.....	9



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

## Overview

The objective of the present document is to overview the established innovation centre at the university of Jordan; its history, objectives, resources, activities, achievements, sustainability strategies, and communication tools.

## Introduction

The center was established by decree from the Board of Trustees at the university by 2015 under the name of “University of Jordan Innovation Center”. Regulations were developed in 2016 and defined the objectives and role of the center.

The name was later changed to become a “The University of Jordan Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center “by an amendment to the decree from the Board of Trustees to link Innovation to Entrepreneurship and economic development in mid-2016.

**Vision:** To support innovation and entrepreneurship in the University and community in cooperation and integration with the public and private sector in an effort to foster innovation and entrepreneurship and create a generation capable making a real contribution to the sustainable economic development in Jordan.

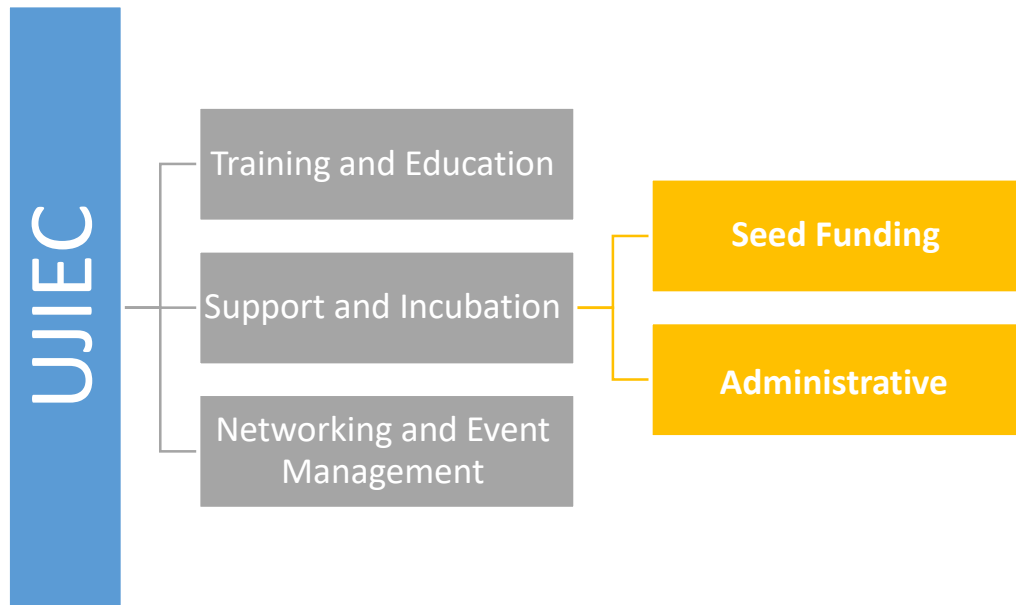
The Center operates from has a temporary location with 6 administrative staff.

## Center Services

UJIEC is a newly established center that services 19 schools at University of Jordan, UJIEC offers entrepreneurs and innovators from the University and across the kingdom. UJIEC offer the following services:

- Pre-incubation services
- Startup funding
- Mentorship services
- Entrepreneurship Training and education
- Patent registration support services
- Networking

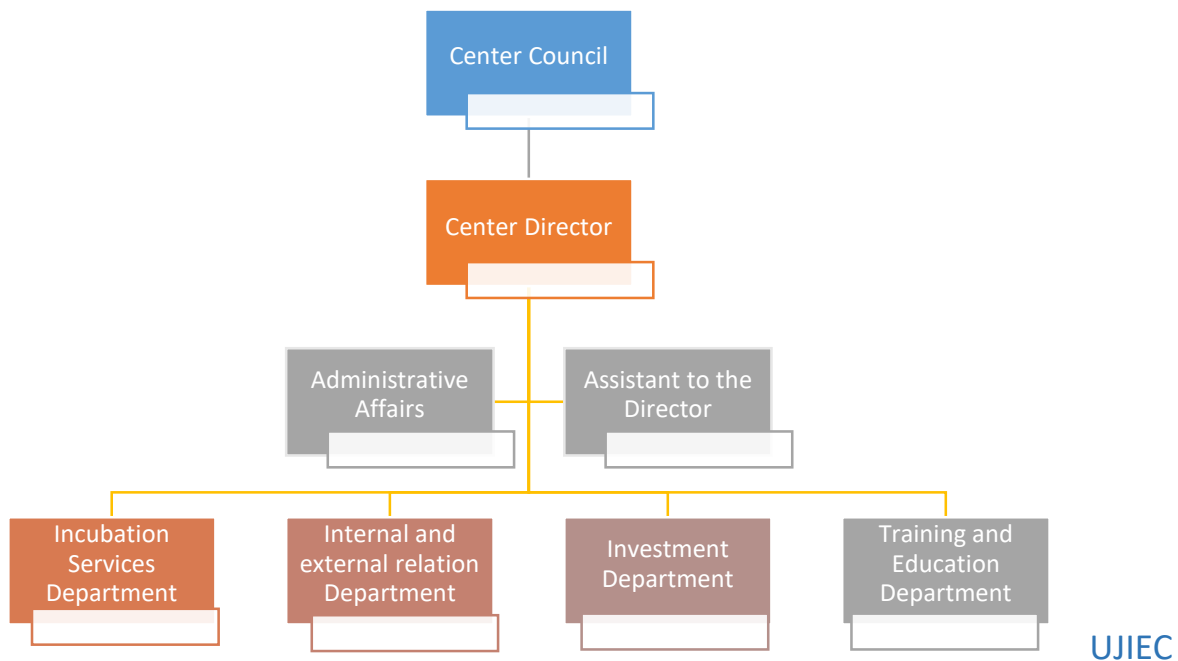
The Center has a research department that conducts research on leadership, innovation, patent protection and marketing, and work with the College of Graduate Studies and Scientific Research to register them.



Core Services at UJIEC Center

## UJIEC Organizational Structure

The center structure is shown in the following chart:





## Center Strategic plan

The center strategy is to create a network with other innovation centers and the innovative community which will have to keep working on the transfer of knowledge, research and technology results achieved in the academic system, creating systematic training and education program, Strengthen Collaboration with stakeholders (national & international & business), Creating a venture capital fund, and Developing the Center Infrastructure (space and equipment).



Fixed Networking & Marketing Event



Creating systematic training and education programs



Strengthen Collaboration with stakeholders (national & international & business)



Creating a venture capital fund



Developing the Center Infrastructure ( space and equipment)

## UJIEC Resources

The center resources are as follow:

### Financial resources

- Small budget allocated from UJ budget yearly – basically to handle
- Administrative operation costs
- Very small Startup seed funding
- Private sector sponsorship and funding for activities and projects

### Human

- UJIEC community
- Volunteers
- UJ community: Faculty members, researchers, graduate students and Students

### Infrastructure

- 100+ Research labs not including computer labs (Bio, Chemical, etc.) at UJ
- 8 research centers at UJ



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

## Innovation and Entrepreneurship support process

### Basic Approaches:

- Demand driven
- General Market and Industry Challenges
- Sector specific filed challenges
- Fixed calls for proposals

### Supply driven

- Research Supply from Research deanships
- Random I&E proposals
- Competitions based

## Student Innovation Promotion

The center is promoting the innovation in students, through developing the following aspects:

### Resources

- New knowledge and technology delivery through continued curriculum improvement.
- Facility, instrument and supplies.

### Motivation

- Student centered activities
- Contemporary Issues
- Student competitions

### Practice

- Self-initiated projects
- Senior design projects
- Course project and research projects
- Vertical integration program and interdisciplinary team



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

## Innovation & Entrepreneurship Stakeholders at UJ

UJIEC is cooperating and coordinating the innovation work with the following units inside the university of Jordan

### **Hamdi Mango Center for Scientific Research**

(HMCSR) is a unique multidisciplinary research center devoted to conducting supporting and encouraging different fields of scientific research and transforming it to applied science and engineering projects. (HMCSR) strive to narrow the gap between academia and industry by facilitating and promoting cooperation between the two sectors and providing a platform for joint projects.

### **Zain Innovation Campus – UJ ZINC**

Aiming at supporting entrepreneurship realm in Jordan, Zain inaugurated Zain Innovation Campus (ZINC), in November 2014; and in 2017 ZINC opened a new branch inside the university . ZINC provides students entrepreneurs and startups with all the requirements to develop and to transform their creative and innovative ideas into productive projects that shall be marketed locally, regionally and globally. ZINC is equipped with the latest technology and facilities and services, in addition to providing consulting and guidance, and the opportunity to access a network of nearly 75 strategic partners .

### **Water, Energy and Environment Center**

The Water, Energy and Environment Center (WEEC) undertakes project research and assessment studies to address environmental challenges at local and regional levels. Established in early of 1980s, WEEC conducts integrated research through partnerships that create collaborative research enterprise between academia, testing laboratories, industry, and government.

### **Deanship of Student Affairs**

The Deanship of Student Affairs assumes the life of the university student outside the study halls. It prepares the various programs to develop the student's personality and help him overcome any obstacles that may hinder his academic career. The mission of the Deanship of Student Affairs . Intellectual, cultural, artistic, sports and guidance activities that contribute to build the student's personality .

### **Deanship of Academic Research**

Funding research projects submitted by researchers, both inside and outside the university. This may be done between the university and international agencies or institutions, while emphasizing proposals that concern national interests, such as support for renewable energy and water.



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

## UJIEC Achievements to Date

The achievements of the center to this date could be summarized in following points:

- Training workshops for faculty members and students, more than 1250 participants were engaged in center training courses
- A joint cooperation agreement between the University of Jordan and INJAZ to provide services and programs in innovation and entrepreneurship. Four strategic collaboration agreements with stakeholders were achieved.
- Release Program "Empowerment and Youth Development" in cooperation with the Jordanian Hashemite Fund
- Exhibition and contest of two projects for pioneering projects in information and communication technology
- Organization of a conference The International Conference on Technology Innovation, Management, and Entrepreneurship (2017) 7 startups under support.
- Secure financial support (about 50,000 JD) for Center operations from both private and public sectors.
- Conducting about 23 networking events (Awareness sessions, guest speakers, workshops, conferences)
- About 4 competitions were held by UJIEC
- 

## UJIEC sustainability

Business sustainability represents resiliency over time (businesses that can survive shocks because they are intimately connected to healthy economic, social and environmental systems).

CTI sustainability is the ability to maintain and manage a long-term adequate financial and social resources that support our operations. The center financial sustainability will be achieved through:

- Strategic Planning
- Managing costs
- Fundraising plan
- Planning for profit
- Rental income
- Fee based training
- Event sales
- Investment
- Plan partnership with Investors
- Co-finance
- More projects





Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

While the center financial sustainability will be achieved through:

- Stakeholder engagement (Students, faculty, and Administration)
- Community outreach and Community Leadership.
- Promoting inclusion for all, equality, rights, development and responsibility of all
- Building a Community of Volunteers

### Center communication tools

The center news, announcement and activities are published on the following official website and Facebook page:

- Website: <http://centers.ju.edu.jo/en/ujic/Home.aspx>
- Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/JUIEC/>



Photos for UJIEC

