

## WHAT WE DO

# INTERNEWS MENA



**helping** create the first student-run, community-based radio station in Jordan . . .



**building** the capacity of youth organizations in Lebanon to use media in promoting peace . . .



**leading** the first ever regional media development forum in the Middle East . . .



**providing** humanitarian information in areas of conflict or natural disaster, such as during the 2008-2009 airstrikes on Gaza . . .

**training** young people in Egypt how to research and report on issues important in their community . . .



**facilitating** the production of social issue radio programming in Yemen . . .



**developing** women's journalism skills in the Arab world . . .



**addressing** the frustration and despair among West Bank youth through a radio program produced by and for young people . . .



## A LEADER IN REGIONAL MEDIA

Internews® Network is one of the principal voices in media development in the Middle East and North Africa region. Working with women, youth and media professionals in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, the West Bank and Gaza, and Yemen, Internews supports independent local media with the goal of promoting peace and building civil society.

### INVESTING IN HUMAN CAPITAL

Since 2004, Internews has trained over 2,500 journalists, jurists, students, teachers, and media professionals in the MENA region. Internews maintains a presence in high impact areas, such as the West Bank and Gaza, where over 110 media professionals have been trained since October 2006. Internews Network seeks out the most underserved sectors and populations: it was the first NGO to hold journalism training sessions in Bahrain, Tunisia and the Sultanate of Oman.

### STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY AND PARTICIPATION

Internews believes that improving access to information is critical to facilitating increased citizen participation in government. Over the years, Internews has formed working relationships with over 45 civil society partners in the MENA

IN THE MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA INTERNEWS IS EMPOWERING LOCAL MEDIA TO SERVE THEIR COMMUNITIES.

region. In Egypt, Internews worked with local NGOs to teach Egyptian schoolchildren how to use the media and civil society institutions for positive social change.

### CONNECTING YOUTH AND TECHNOLOGY

In many MENA countries, young people make up the majority of the population, yet continue to be underrepresented in media, a situation that Internews is working to rectify.

In Jordan, Internews and its local partners created two radio stations administered and produced by young people, Yarmouk FM and Farah al-Nas Radio. In order to ensure sustainability, Internews worked with Yarmouk University to develop curriculum for university journalism courses. Since the end of Internews Network's involvement in the project in August of 2008, both stations have continued to operate

successfully and are now among the most popular and well-respected radio stations in northern Jordan. Internews also recognizes the potential for youth participation through new media. Planned programs on blogging and alternative media will focus on young people.

### EMPOWERING WOMEN

As an integral part of its programs, Internews supports female media professionals. Internews works to bring women's perspectives into media, by training women as producers of media and through the content of the stories themselves. For instance, with its partner, the Media Women's Forum (MWF), Internews is building the first ever digital radio production unit in Yemen to produce thirty-minute radio programs to be aired by mainstream and national Yemeni media.



## ABOUT INTERNEWS NETWORK

Internews Network is an international media development organization whose mission is to empower local media worldwide to give people the news and information they need, the ability to connect, and the means to make their voices heard.

Formed in 1982, Internews Network is a 501(c)(3) organization headquartered in California. It has worked in 70 countries, and currently has offices in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and North America.

In November 2008, Internews and the Lebanese Press Club held the first ever Regional Forum for Media Development for the Middle East and North Africa under the patronage of HRH Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein Bint. The forum brought together over 60 regional media organizations to foster cooperation and common strategies.

As an international 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Internews Network depends on contributions and grants. Please support our work by mailing a tax-deductible donation or giving online at: [www.internews.org/getinvolved/donate.shtml](http://www.internews.org/getinvolved/donate.shtml)



“The Regional Forum for Media Development was a chance to be involved in building a new strategy for the future [and also] to feel involved in a new process of cooperation . . . that we can make a difference.”

— HAITHAM ATOOM

Station Manager of Radio Farah Al Nas, which Internews helped found in Jordan

“I didn’t know how to get the information before, but now I know where and how to get certain types of information, and how important it is for the media to be accurate in getting the information.”

— Participant in an Internews workshop on media development in the West Bank

“This (Internews) project differs completely from others implemented in the past in terms of the strong relationship exhibited by the promoting of civic education via the media.”

— RANDA HALAWA

Director of local NGOs at the Ministry of Education, Egypt

“The idea of creating working groups and coming up with results is the way to show the transparency of the programs, and I hope that at least one of my ideas will be realized with this project through a real radio program.”

— RADIA KHAIRAN

Internews working group participant in Yemen



## INTERNEWS OFFICES

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empowering local media  
 in the Middle East  
 and North Africa



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