



المجلس الوطني لشؤون الأسرة  
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR FAMILY AFFAIRS

# **The National Council for Family Affairs**

## **Annual Report**

**for the Year 2013**



**His Majesty King Abdullah II Bin Al- Hussein**



**Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah**



**His Royal Highness Crown Prince Al  
Hussein bin Abdullah II**



## Contents

- Opening Remarks/ Secretary General.....	6
- Our Achievements during the Year 2013.....	13
• Family protection and development	
• Childhood	
• Legislation and policies	
• Media and organizational development	
- Family Indicators.....	22
- NCFA's Financial Resources.....	23
- 2013 Supporters.....	23
- NCFA publications for the year 2013.....	23



## Preface

The National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA) proudly presents its annual report for the year 2013. The report highlights NCFA's accomplishments, activities, programs and projects in various fields in realization of the directives of Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah and the Board of Trustees, represented in its Chairman and members, in addition to the support and efforts of NCFA team and its governmental and non-governmental partners.



During 2013 and while preparing the **Jordanian Family Status Report**, NCFA conducted a field survey on a sample of (1900) Jordanian families representing the different governorates of Jordan to evaluate their status, characteristics and development trends. Findings will be useful in determining the priority of issues to be undertaken by NCFA and its partners in the future to scale up the level of services provided for Jordanian families.

The year 2013 witnessed a massive of achievements in the field of family protection . One example was the "**Study of the Social and Economic Characteristics of Family violence cases**" which was the first study in Jordan to involve real family violence cases registered at the Family Protection Department (FPD). **As part of the Project on Family Violence Automated Tracking System**, an evaluation of the system was carried out as a year has passed since the launch of its pilot phase. A major recommendation of the evaluation was the need to expand the project and roll out the system to cover all governorates of the Kingdom.

A regional workshop on "**The Importance of Family Counseling in the Arab World**", held between 22-23-rd of December 2013, highlighted Arab states' concern with optimizing family counseling services to be able to tackle the growing pressures and challenges that are currently confronting Arab families. The workshop introduced a number of recommendations to enhance the delivery of services such as the inception of new courses on family counseling at universities and the creation of awareness programs that address the issue from all aspects.

In the field of childhood, NCFA prepared in 2013 a series of awareness packages directed specifically for children and families all over Jordan. The first package titled "**Safe Internet Usage**" included interactive leaflets and a short awareness video illustrating brief practical steps that families could follow to guide their children towards a safer use of the Internet.

The most outstanding milestones of 2013 were probably the outcomes of **the Foster Care Project** implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) and Save the Child and manifested through two major accomplishments. The first was the launch of the **Foster Care Manual**, under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah and with the presence of a group of foster families, followed by **a training program** for MoSD staff concerned with foster care on the use of the manual which was distributed, in collaboration with the MoSD, among a group of foster and pre-foster families in a celebration event attended by approximately 100 families. The second accomplishment was the drafting **of a regulation** which will regulate the foster care process to be submitted to relevant authorities for endorsement upon the completion of its final version.



**Finally**, as NCFA presents an overview of its accomplishments, it hopes that they will be in the best interest of our Jordanian family and its members, extending its deepest appreciation and gratitude first for the Board of Trustees chaired by HM Queen Rania Al-Abdullah for their ongoing support, and second for our partners from governmental, non-governmental, private sector and international organizations and bodies for their cooperation. All have embodied the one team spirit for a happy childhood, a promising youth and a safe old age.

**We pray for God to grant us success to serve the interests of our Jordanian family members under the leadership of His Majesty King Abdullah II Bin Al-Hussein.**

**In God we seek success**

**NCFA Secretary- General  
Fadil Mohammad Al-Hmoud**



**Vision:**

An enhanced environment for the Jordanian family to achieve stability and well-being

**Mission:**

To contribute and guide policy formulation and support efforts to strengthen Jordanian families, maximizing their societal role and preserving their cultural traditions and values

**NCFA Roles**

**Policy Formulation:** As a think-tank organization, NCFA undertakes preparing, reviewing and amending policies, legislation and measures related to the family and its members based on national affairs and priorities.

**Managing Research and Data Resources:** NCFA is committed to providing credible information on all family related matters. It manages all the data at its disposal to enable all parties concerned with the family to take informed decisions based on scientific principles that guarantee a sustainable progress and higher standing of the Jordanian family. In addition to that, NCFA directs and promotes researches and scientific programs towards national priorities.

**Advocacy:** NCFA advocates for national support of decision-makers for family policies, family programs and fundraising to ensure the sustainability of family programs on the national level.

**Coordination and Networking:** NCFA focuses on coordinating among the national institutions concerned with family issues and its members to unify their efforts in addition to networking with institutions concerned with the issue of the family at the regional and international levels.

**Monitoring and Evaluation:** NCFA monitors and evaluates the implementation of policies, strategies and plans related to the family and its members by its partners in addition to monitoring procedures of institutions working in the field of the family protection.

**Organizational Development:** NCFA focuses on developing and building its technical, administrative and financial capacities to fulfill its role and responsibilities.



#### Members of the NCFA Board of Trustees at the time of preparing this report:

Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah (Chairman of the board of trustees)  
 H.E. Dr. Rajai Muasher / Vice President  
 H.E. Dr. Hayel Al-Daoud/ Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs  
 H.E. Dr. Ibrahim Saif / Minister of Planning and International Cooperation  
 H.E. Dr. Mohammad Thneibat / Minister of Education  
 H.E. Mrs. Reem Abu Hassan/ Minister of Social Development  
 H.E. Dr. Ali Hiasat / Minister of Health  
 H.E. Mrs. Laila Sharaf.  
 H.E. Dr. Mohammed Hamdan  
 H.E. Mr. Nabih Shuquem  
 Dr. Tawfiq Hamid Tawalbeh/ Director of Public Security Directorate  
 Ms. Fatima Abu Ibtah  
 Dr. Adab Al-Saoud  
 Mrs. Hala Zureikat.  
 Dr. Mou'men Al-Hadedy  
 Dr. Mohammed Fayez Al Tarawneh  
 Mr. Tahseen Al-Qatawneh  
 Dr. Suha Al-Hassan  
 Mr. Fadil Al-Hmoud/ NCFA Secretary General

#### Executive committee: It is derived from the Board of Trustees and comprises the following members:

H.E. Dr. Rajai Muasher/ Chairman of the Executive Committee  
 H.E. Dr. Mohammed Hamdan  
 H.E. Mr. Nabih Shuquem  
 Dr. Adab Al-Saoud  
 Mr. Tahseen Al-Qatawneh  
 Mr. Fadil Al-Hmoud/NCFA General Secretary



#### The General Secretariat:

**It functions the NCFA's executive body and is supervised by the Secretary General. (To attain the goals and mission of NCFA, a multidisciplinary team of staff undertakes the responsibility of executing NCFA works and activities). The team comprises:**

Mr. Fadil Al-Hmoud/General Secretary  
 Mr. Mohammad Miqdady/Deputy Secretary General  
 Dr. Hanan - AL-Daher / Director of Legislation and Conventions Unit  
 Mr. Mohammad Raja' Daoud/ Director of Organizational Services Unit  
 Dr. Suha Tabbal/ Head of Childhood Unit  
 Mrs. khadijah Alaween/ Senior Family Development Specialist  
 Mr. Hakam Matalkah/ Senior Family Protection Specialist  
 Mrs. Naela Al-Sarayrah/ Senior Legal Specialist  
 Mrs. Mai Sultan/ Policies and Data Senior Specialist  
 Mr. Wajdi Khamayseh/ Senior Accountant  
 Mrs. Hania Al-Khanjy/Childhood Specialist  
 Mr. Aiman Al-Omari/ Operating Systems Specialist  
 Mr. Ahmed Abu Ameerah/ Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist  
 Mr. Ahmed Al-Abbadi/Information Systems Specialist  
 Mr. Bilal Khraisat/ HR and Institutional Development Specialist  
 Ms. Hadeel Al-Hawari/ Family Protection Researcher  
 Mrs. Tamara Al-Zoubi/Childhood Event Administrator  
 Mr. Hamzah Mansour / HR & Event Management administrator  
 Mr. Luay Abukwaik /Accountant  
 Mrs. Nisreen Al- Khaldi/ Executive Secretary/ Secretary General's office  
 Ms. Eman Abu Qaoud/ Media Administrator  
 Mr. Dergham Al-Shurbajy/ Supplies and Services Administrator  
 Mr. Khader Al-Jbour/Driver  
 Mr. Amjad Al-Ahmad/Driver  
 Mr. Hamdi Al-Bayoumi/ Support Services Staff  
 Mr. Mustafa Baseet/ Support Services Staff





### Our achievements in 2013

#### First: Our achievements in the field of family development and protection

**NCFA contributes to enhancing, safeguarding and advancing the status of the Jordanian family, the nucleus of the society, to tackle its roles towards its members and society. NCFA's main achievements in this field during 2013 were:**

##### 1- Family Counseling Project:

During 2013, NCFA followed-up on the work of the Family Counseling Center established in the Governorate of Ma'an in cooperation with Al-Anwar Welfare Society for women. As such, in collaboration with members of the Society, an annual action plan was set and its activities were executed which included advocating for the center and its awareness and media outreach aspects. Up to 2013, the center had received 100 cases, most of which were related to marital and teen problems as well as family violence cases.

As part of the project, NCFA conducted in partnership with the MoSD, three awareness workshops on family counseling targeting the local community in Qatraneh. The objectives of the workshops were to familiarize the audience with family counseling and its role in protecting the family and society from numerous problems, in addition to providing them with information and counseling skills that can help them in their daily lives. On a similar note, NCFA also conducted an awareness workshop attended by liaison and women empowerment coordinators from different governorates of Jordan, in collaboration with All Jordan Youth Commission (AJYC)/ King Abdulla II Fund for Development. The workshop covered issues of direct impact on the youth such as counseling of couples seeking marriage, marital problems, dealing with teens, counseling families of drug addicts in addition to family violence cases.

Another outcome of the family counseling project was a regional workshop on the importance of family counseling in the Arab world held between 22-23rd of December 2013 and attended by a group of experts and specialists from local and regional governmental and non-governmental organizations and bodies working in the field of family counseling. The workshop aimed at highlighting the importance of both roles of family counseling, the preventive and the therapeutic, in addressing issues and pressures that confront the family and its members. The workshop also provided an opportunity for exchanging expertise among Arab countries to benefit from success stories in this regard. Participating countries besides Jordan were: Egypt, Tunisia, Lebanon, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Palestine.



### Workshop Recommendations:

1. Incorporating special courses into school curricula on family education from a religious, moral and social perspective.
2. Building on previous experiences in family dispute resolution.
3. Adopting public awareness programs that deal with family disputes.
4. Creating a networking mechanism among Arab countries to resolve family disputes.



**During the year 2014, NCFA will continue cooperating with various societies and institutions to open family counseling centers in a number of governorates in Jordan and will continue training and qualifying service providers on the Family Counseling Training Manual.**



## 2- Updating the Jordanian National Strategy for Senior Citizens

NCFA signed a cooperation agreement with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to provide support for updating the National Strategy for Senior Citizens. Hence, an action plan was set covering all the activities that will be implemented.

In this regard, the National Committee held a meeting to review the operating mechanism for following-up on the issues and pillars of the updated strategy in terms of what can be amended and added. It is to be noted that the National Committee was formed upon the Prime Minister's letter No. 21/12/1/28364 dated 21/12/2012 as the "Monitoring Committee on the Jordanian National Strategy for Senior Citizens".

**During 2014, NCFA will start implementing the activities of the action plan including workshops, studies and meetings .**

## 3- The Jordanian Family Status Report

During 2013, NCFA finalized phase I of the Jordanian Status Report which aimed to create an integrated database that identifies priorities related to family issues and problems, thus providing a realistic access and a comprehensive approach for understanding and reading the situation and affairs of the Jordanian family at the present time. This will enable NCFA and its stakeholders to possess the necessary background information and data to monitor the status and characteristics of the Jordanian family and steer efforts, plans and priorities for the coming years. The first draft was finalized highlighting the main features, goals and pillars of the report.

To be better acquainted with the status of the Jordanian family on the ground, a field survey was conducted on a sample of Jordanian families representing all governorates of the Kingdom. The sample covered (1900) families and (913) family members above 18 years of age. The survey questionnaire included questions on the status of the Jordanian family, its characteristics, and attitudes towards various issues of concern to its members. The questionnaires were then analyzed statistically and a descriptive report of the data was prepared, linked with national data and statistics and fed into the pillars of the report.

**During 2014, NCFA will work on drafting the report and recommendations and will produce the final version to be printed, released and distributed among stakeholders.**

## 4- The National Team for Family Protection against Violence

The team, formed in the year 2000, seeks to unite and coordinate efforts of national governmental and non-governmental institutions that are involved with the formulation, follow-up and evaluation of policies, plans and programs pertaining to family protection. The team holds monthly meetings to discuss national issues and programs related to family protection. The main accomplishments of the team during 2012 were as follows:



- Forming a legal and technical committee comprising member institutions, judges and legal specialists to review the Family Violence Protection Act for the year 2008 and draft the required amendments to the articles.
- Following-up on and discussing the issue of the accumulating files of family violence cases at the (FPD) and forming committees to review the files and make relevant decisions.

**The team will continue working during 2014 on the executive procedures for amending the Family Violence Protection Act and all pressing issues in the field of family protection against violence.**

## 5- Quality Assurance and Accreditation System for family Protection Services

During 2013, NCFA went ahead with the implementation of the piloting phase of the quality assurance accreditation system on service providers working in the field of family protection. Accreditation standards were applied on a sample of seven national institutions providing all forms of services (social, health, educational and police). The sample included: four governmental institutions (Ministry of social development, Ministry of education (MoE), Ministry of Health (MoH) and Family Protection Department (FPD)) and three non-governmental institutions (Institute for Family Health, Jordan River Foundation, and Jordanian Women's Union).

**Following are the main outputs of the piloting phase during 2013 which aimed at identifying opportunities for improvement in the services provided by the targeted institutions:**

- Developing assessment tools and methodologies based on service quality standards and endorsing them by the National Team.
- Holding a training course for liaison officers from governmental and non-governmental institutions on methodologies, procedures and practices related to the quality assurance of services provided to family violence cases in a way that ensures institutional excellence and leads to staff and customer satisfaction.
- Conducting meetings and visits to targeted institutions included in the pilot phase.
- Reporting evaluation outcomes of services provided by NGOs and their service-enhancement action plans.
- Developing the "Procedures Manual for the Reception and Management of Family Violence Cases in NGOs" for dealing with family violence cases in addition to "Family Violence Procedures Manual for Home Shelter Services".
- Developing training guides for the two aforementioned procedures manuals.
- Initiating procedures required for preparing assessment reports of governmental institutions.



**During 2014, NCFA will finalize and test the standards application procedures on all targeted institutions and will prepare a full report on the outcomes of the pilot phase of the project highlighting main gaps in the overall protection system at the national level. NCFA will also take the necessary executive procedures to institutionalize quality assurance and the accreditation standards at an institutional level covering all institutions that provide services for family violence cases.**



## 6- Automated Procedures for Handling Family Violence Cases

During 2013 and a year after the launch of the pilot phase of the project for the automation of institutional response to domestic violence, NCFA evaluated the project to identify the institutional status of the system; see how well it is activated in reality by partner institutions and determine areas and opportunities of improvement to guarantee that the system works and its objectives are met to be accordingly rolled out to the rest of the Jordanian governorates. An evaluation report was prepared, the most important recommendation was to expand the project and roll-out the system to include all governorates of Jordan.



**During 2013, the project supervised by the National Team and funded by the Government of Jordan (GoJ) and United Nations Agencies yielded the following outcomes:**

- Refitting and redesigning the offices of the Judiciary Division and Social Service in the (FPD) to enhance confidentiality and privacy when dealing with cases.
- Conducting follow-up and support visits to partner institutions to check up on their system implementation.
- Taking note of and addressing observations and improvements that were suggested by institutions applying the system during the pilot phase.
- Conducting new training courses in December 2013 for 150 liaison officers from institutions linked to the system.
- Organizing a workshop for partner institutions to discuss developments and future plans for the activation and expansion of the system.
- Evaluating the pilot phase of the system to identify the institutional status of the system, see how well it is activated in reality by partner institutions and determine areas and opportunities for improvement to guarantee that the system works and its objectives are met to be rolled-out to the rest of the Jordanian governorates.

**During 2014, NCFA will cooperate with partner institutions to set a future projection of the project's expansion mechanism to cover all governorates of the Kingdom.**

## 7- A Study on the Social and Economic Characteristics of Family violence cases:

NCFA worked during 2013 on finalizing and producing the final draft of the study on the Social and Economic Characteristics of Family violence cases. The significance of this study lies in the fact that it is the first of its kind to be applied on actual violence cases registered at the (FPD). The study, which relied on (1651) file cases that were reported to the (FPD) during 2009, was executed by the NCFA in collaboration with (FPD), the Strategic and Security Studies Center at the Public Security Directorate and the former Coordination Commission for Social Solidarity. The study aimed at exploring the social and cultural dynamics of domestic violence phenomenon in Jordan and providing decision makers with data that can help them outline national programs and directions pertaining to family protection against violence.



## Major study outcomes:

- The most common type of family violence in Jordan is physical accounting to (86%) of the cases.
- (62.1%) of cases were mostly within families of five members or less.
- (47.8%) of the cases were recurrent.
- The majority of family violence perpetrators were men with a percentage of (92.1%).
- Most family violence perpetrators were from the age group (2948-) accounting to (60.8%) of the cases.
- The majority of family violence victims were women with a percentage of (70%) of the cases.
- (30%) of victims were children under 18 years of age, whereas (69.8%) were adults (18 years and above).

## Study recommendations:

- Family violence interventions and services offered by institutions should be reviewed and their effectiveness reassessed given the rise in violence recurrences.
- Family counseling programs at a national level should be promoted to help combat the culture of violence among Jordanian families and enhance a culture of dialogue and communication instead.
- The study should be implemented periodically to track any changes in the social and economic dynamics of family violence which will be useful when reviewing national policies and programs targeting family violence.
- All intervention paper forms used by service-provider institutions particularly social workers should be reviewed to guarantee the availability of clear and detailed status information on each case.

## Second: Our achievements in the field of childhood

NCFA addresses childhood issues from a family perspective and supports decision makers and service providers with childhood activities to ensure an environment that is conducive to children.

**NCFA's achievement in this field during the year 2012 were as follows:**

### 1- The Project on the Establishment of an Accreditation System for Public and Private Kindergartens

During 2013, NCFA conducted various meetings with the MoE to agree on the final draft of the kindergarten accreditation standards. The two parties agreed on adopting the American document of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) after amending it so as to adapt with the Jordanian environment. The (NAEYC) was contacted to obtain its approval to translate, modify and adapt the document to be in harmony with the Jordanian environment.





During 2014, NCFA will submit the final draft of the foster care regulation to relevant authorities for approval.

### 2- The Project on Monitoring Child-Related National Policies (Child-Friendly Budgets)

During 2013 and as part of the activities of the Child-Friendly Budgeting Project, NCFA signed a cooperation agreement with the UNICEF that included an action plan for the second phase of the project. As such, a study analysis was carried out for the budgets of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs to identify child-specific allocations in the budgets of the two Ministries within the General Budget Law. Moreover, a workshop was conducted to introduce concerned individuals in the two Ministries to the concept and analysis of child-friendly budgeting.

During 2014, the outcomes of the budget analysis report of the two Ministries involved will be presented in addition to continued follow-up of the budgets of the ministries that have been previously analyzed.



### 3- Parental Awareness Project

During 2013, NCFA initiated a series of awareness packages directed specifically to the child and the family in all governorates of Jordan. The first of these was a package on the safe use of the Internet which comprised a short story, an activities booklet, a drawing paper, a short awareness video illustrating practical steps that families could follow to direct their children to a safer use of the Internet, in addition to a family-oriented pamphlet. The package was launched during a workshop held at AL-Khansa' School in the Governorate of Balqa targeting (10) students

from the third to the fifth grade and their families to familiarize them with the awareness package. The Jordanian State Television took part in the promotion process by broadcasting the event and conducting interviews highlighting the package and its significance.

Work also started on the second package entitled "My first steps towards safe relationships" of which the scientific material was finished and is now awaiting scholarly review.

It is expected that during 2014, the safe relationship package will be launched and other awareness packages targeting the child and family will be prepared accompanied by the required training.

### 4-Developing a work mechanism based on recommendations included in the adolescents' report on the CRC

A cooperation agreement was signed with the UNICEF to guarantee the activation of recommendations included in the report prepared by the Ihna Ma'kum Team (We are with you) which was formed in 2010 consisting of adolescent boys and girls within the age group (1421-). The report titled "Opinions, experiences and views of Jordan's children and adolescents on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)" included recommendations on several issues pertaining to participation, protection and decision-making. The report aims to shed light on the aspirations of children and adolescents in Jordan from their own point of view and based on the information available to them in their pursuit of a better life.



One of the most significant aspects that NCFA plans to work on in 2014 is the execution of activities adopted in the action plan designed to activate the recommendations included in the report.

### 5- The Project on the Development of Services Provided for Children under Four Years of Age

NCFA worked during 2013 on developing a selection mechanism for determining nurseries that will be rehabilitated according to international standards. The selection process relied on Jordan's Poverty Pocket Report to choose from nurseries licensed by the MoSD. The next stage was to assess the preliminary list according to a predesigned tool to come up with a short list of nurseries that will be developed, noting that extra attention was paid to include nurseries that are located in workplaces known for their difficulty. The following step was to determine the financial and technical requirements of the chosen locations. Accordingly, NCFA signed cooperation agreements with the Royal Medical Services to rehabilitate the nursery located in Al-Hussein Medical City and with Hashemite University to support the establishment



of a nursery on campus which will serve as an applied branch for the Queen Rania College for Childhood and as a nursery accommodating children of the University staff at the same time. NCFA also signed another agreement with the Jordanian Women's Union, under which workers in the Union's daycare center were trained on the use of the NCFA's Activities Guide in addition to training workers of Al Hussein Social Institution run by the MoSD on the use of the guide.

During 2014, NCFA will follow-up on the development of model nurseries in collaboration with national institutions and will continue its work on raising the efficiency of early childhood service providers.

### 6- Foster Care Project



**First: The foster Care Manual:** NCFA produced during 2013 the final version of the Foster Care Manual which is a scientific guide directed specifically to foster and pre-foster families. The manual was the product of a multidisciplinary group of psychologists, social workers, educationalists and legal specialists to serve as reference book for foster families who will be able to benefit from the methods and best practices introduced in the guide and illustrated by stories and different settings for choosing the best time to tell the foster child of his reality and of any other issue of

importance to him in a simple and educationally-appropriate manner. The launching of the manual came under the patronage of HM Queen Rania Al-Abdullah and attended by a group of foster families and members of the Foster Care Technical Committee which comprises representatives of national institutions concerned with childhood and the family. Following the launch of the manual, NCFA continued its work by meeting with one hundred foster and pre-foster families to listen to their requests and to provide them with the manual.



**Second: Foster Care regulation:** In cooperation with the Foster Care Technical Committee, NCFA produced a foster care regulation that serves as a legislative framework for all forms of alternative care. The framework regulates alternative care procedures whether in the form of foster care or alternative families and institutions- and defines terms and conditions to be observed in children, foster and alternative families and care-providing institutions.



**During 2014, NCFA will submit the final draft of the foster care regulation to relevant authorities for approval.**

### Third: Our Achievements in Legislation and Policies

NCFA reviews Jordanian legislation and submits amendment proposals thereof in line with the envisaged national priorities in the field of family; it also tracks, documents and monitors national legislation to ensure their alignment with Arab and international agreements and conventions signed by the Kingdom.

**NCFA's main achievements in this field were:**



#### 1- Training Shariah and Ecclesiastical Lawyers on Employing International Conventions in Legal Proceedings

During 2013, NCFA carried on with the project related to training Shariah and ecclesiastical lawyers on the application of international conventions in judicial proceedings in cooperation with the American Bar Association (ABA), through a set of workshops in the north, central and southern regions of the Kingdom. One hundred lawyers (males and females) underwent four training courses in different parts of the Kingdom on international conventions pertaining to personal status. They were trained on techniques and skills of employing international conventions related to the family into judicial proceedings and on the personal status law that regulates each agreement.

#### 2- Drafting the Family Protection Law for the year 2008

NCFA worked in 2013 on preparing the final draft of the amended Family Protection Law which was drafted by a specially formed committee derived from the National Team for Family Protection against Violence. Committee member institutions were handed questionnaires to pinpoint legal and procedural gaps. An initial draft was prepared in cooperation with members of the Legal Committee. Furthermore, a specialized workshop was held to discuss proposed amendments and to agree on the final draft of the law.



### Justifications for amendments as presented by the Committee:

- The definitions provided for the family and members and the scope of law enforcement with regard to crimes that fall under domestic violence should be reviewed.
- Family violence reporting procedures and their mandatory extent should be reviewed.
- Dispute settlement procedures should be included in the law in a manner that safeguards the rights of all parties involved.

**NCFA will work during 2014 to have the final draft of the law adopted and will rally the support of decision-makers and legislators on the new amended law.**

### 3- Legislation Analysis Project:

During 2013, NCFA analyzed the legislation pertaining to the family with a view to establish amended or activated legislation that ensures the safety and well-being of the family. The analysis process covered the following pillars:

- Penal protection pillar.
- Health and environment pillar.
- Education pillar.
- Personal status pillar.
- Economic and social pillar.

**During 2014, more workshops are expected to be carried out in order to prepare the necessary legal memorandums based on main recommendations arising from the analysis discussions.**

### 4- A Panel discussion on Article 308 related to the marriage of rapists to their victims (shariah, legal, psychological and social dimensions):

NCFA started in 2013 conducting a series of seminars to highlight family issues that have direct bearing on the lives of its members. The first seminar titled «The Marriage of the Culprits of rapists» was attended by experts and specialists who studied and analyzed this particular issue from Shariah, legal, psychological and social perspectives.

The seminar attempted to identify the extent of the penal protection that is provided by Article 308 of the Penal Code for the individual and the family with respect to discontinuation of legal prosecution against the rapist in rape cases if he marries the victim. According to the aforementioned Article, punishment can still be executed if a divorce occurs any time before a three-year period starting from the time of the felony and a five-year period starting from the time of the offence or if the divorce was without just cause.



#### Main recommendations of the panel discussion:

- The importance of conducting national consultations to review and amend Article 308 of the Penal Code to be in harmony with Shariah, legal, social and psychological dimensions that are relevant to this issue.
- The importance of evaluating the social and psychological services provided for rape victims and comparing them with international standards.
- The importance of conducting an analytical status report of cases where rape victims marry perpetrators of crimes that are against public morals and ethics. The analysis should include the social and psychological environment surrounding each crime and marriage incident to be informed of the de facto situation of the marriage.
- The importance of taking measures to determine the rape victim's capacity (psychologically and socially) and competence to inter into a marriage contract and bear the consequences of such decision. Measures should also be taken to rehabilitate the rape victim in this respect through various social and psychological studies , which is a role to be undertaken by civil society institutions.

#### 5- Juvenile Justice Strategy Project:

During 2013, NCF started working on a Juvenile Strategy with a view of determining institutional roles for achieving a restorative juvenile justice as a new approach for handling juvenile cases instead of resorting to punitive justice. The new envisaged method takes into account the best interests of juveniles whether victims or offenders by engaging the community and aligning with international conventions and the new Juvenile Law number 32 for the year 2014. Finalizing the legal section of the strategy was a major step in the preparation process.

However, the full draft of the envisaged strategy is expected be finalized during 2014.

#### Fourth: Our achievements in the field of the media and organizational development

NCF contributes to raising awareness and mobilizing national support for issues and policies pertaining to the Jordanian family and the right of its members, in addition to promoting relevant media, cultural and social activities which are of interest to the family and its members. Moreover, NCF contributes to strengthening intra-organizational relationships and relationships with international, regional and national entities working in the field of the family as well as enhancing relationships with media outlets to raise their awareness of family-related programs.

#### NCF's achievements in this field for the year 2012 were as follows:

- Activation of the NCF electronic and social media websites to ensure coverage of the news and activities of NCF and to post interactive materials prepared by NCF on its website.
- Finalization of the first phase of the procedural system and document management control system to be processed electronically.
- Issuance and endorsement of administrative instructions.

**NCF will develop its strategy for the years 2015-2017- to set its work priorities and will also intensify media coverage of its activities.**



## Family Indicators

Indicator	Figures
Estimated No. of families (thousand)	1173.2
Average household size (person)	5.4
Total fertility rate	3.5
No. of registered marriage contracts (thousand)	70.6
No. of registered divorces (thousand)	17.7
Crude marriage rate (per 1000 of population)	11.1
Crude divorce rate (per 1000 of population)	2.8
Singulate mean age at first marriage	28.1
Male	30.0
Female	25.9
Population growth rate (%)	2.2
Crude population increase rate (%)	2.1
Dependency rate (%)	68.2
Population Less than 15 Year of Age (%)	37.3
Population Age 15-64 Years (%)	59.5
Elderly population (65+) rate	3.2
Females (55+)	222740
Males (60+)	162280
Poverty rate (person%)	14.4
Unemployment rate (%)	12.2
Percentage of women in workforce (15+)	18.3
Females of Total Employed Persons Age 15+ Years (%)	16.7
Illiteracy among Population 15+ Years (%)	6.7
Crime Rate (Per 1000 Population)	5.2

Source: Jordanian Department of Statistics. Jordan Figures 2012, [www.dos.gov](http://www.dos.gov)



### NCFA's Financial Resources

NCFA's financial resources, according to Article (14) of NCFA Law No. 27 for the year 2001, were as follows:

- a. Income of movable and immovable funds owned by NCFA.
- b. Returns of funds, projects and programs managed by NCFA.
- c. Jordanian government's grant.
- d. Donations and contributions approved by NCFA, provided that approval of the Cabinet should be obtained if such donations are granted by a non-Jordanian source.
- e. Any other resources approved by NCFA.

### Sponsors for 2013:

- The Jordanian government
- Ministry of Planning
- American Bar Association
- UN agencies team in Jordan
- United Arab Emirates
- Academic Education Development – Jordan Civil Society Program
- Arab Gulf Development Program (AGFUND)
- Save the Children
- UNICEF
- Ministry of Social Development (MoSD)
- Arab Women Organization (AWO)

### NCFA publications for the year 2013

- Families Manual... Towards a safe and healthy fostering
- Safe Internet Usage Package
- A reprint of the "Quality Assurance and Accreditation Standards for family Protection Services"
- Annual Report for the year 2011