

# Community-Driven Waste Management Solutions

*Integrating circular economy components to address waste management challenges*

Under the GIZ's Waste to (Positive) Energy programme, ACTED is organizing dialogue forums within multiple municipalities to increase the knowledge about waste management among different population groups, including women, youth, religious leaders, farmers and agricultural workers and shop owners.

These sessions aim to enable community members to learn more about proper waste sorting and recycling practices. The sessions allow participants to exchange and create dialogue on common waste challenges and encourage them to be leading drivers of change and raise awareness within their communities. Following these dialogue platforms, these groups launched various community-driven initiatives to solve waste management challenges, often integrating circular economy components to leverage waste solutions for income generating opportunities.

- **Funded by:** European Union and German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
- **Beneficiaries:** 2,643 vulnerable Jordanians and Syrian refugees
- **Location:** Irbid, Mafraq, Balqa, Karak, Madaba, Zarqa governorates
- **Objective:** To promote social cohesion in refugee hosting communities and post-employment referrals for former cash workers

## Deir Alla



### *Re-use containers to plant flowers*

In Deir Alla, a group of farmers and women started to collect different types of plastic bottles, oil tins containers, water gallons, etc., in August 2021. They are reusing these containers to plant seedling and flowers at home. This initiative allowed them to decrease the amount of waste produced in their community, as well as generate additional income by selling the flowers.



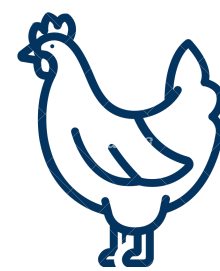
### *Production of organic fertilizer*

One of the supported participants from the religious group has used the knowledge gained from the dialogue sessions to implement a circular waste initiative on his land. In July 2021, he decided to replace chemical fertilizers with plant and animal waste to nourish his produce. This initiative has allowed him to increase both the quantity and quality of his production, decrease input supply costs and reduce his waste production.





## Irbid



### *Food collection to feed poultry*

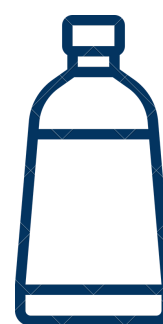
In May 2021, one of the participants from the religious leaders group purchased chickens and ducks as an income generating opportunity by selling their eggs. Reflecting on the learnings obtained during his participation in the dialogue forums, he began using leftover food waste from his house as feed for the birds. This initiative has further encouraged his neighbors to collect and give him their food waste to him to support his business and contribute to reducing food waste.



### *Don't throw away your dress*

A women who attended the dialogue sessions also launched her own initiative in July 2021. She collects unwanted and damaged cloths thrown away in her community and recycles the fabrics into shopping bags and masks. She then distributed the final products to her relatives, friends and neighbors. She has now inspired other women in her community to follow the same idea and create their own products.

## Karak



### *Reuse empty bottles for handicrafts*

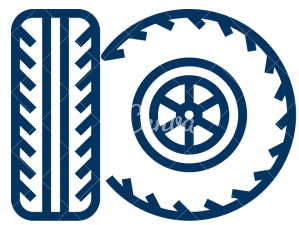
In Karak, a group of women decided to use the knowledge they acquired from the forums on recycling to launch an upcycling initiative. In August 2021 they started to collect unwanted waste from their house to create arts and handicrafts for their personal use, as well as for friends and family. They are also sharing tips with their community members to promote upcycling activities and thus lessen domestic waste.



### *Organic compost*

In May 2021, following the dialogue forum sessions, a group of women joined together to generate organic fertilizer. To do so, they are collecting food waste to use as organic compost. The compost is providing higher quality nutrients for the produce, while the volume of organic waste produced decreases.

# Wasatyah



*Recycling tires and wood pallets*

In Wasatyah municipality, a group of shop owners have launched an initiative to decrease the amount of waste generated in their community, such as tires and wooden pallets. In July 2021, they started to collect the waste and converted it into furniture (table, seat, decoration etc.). The products have then been given to local households, as well as placed in public gardens.



## HIGHLIGHT: "Hot Spot" Initiative

In Deir Alla, various dialogue forum groups, including youth, women, shop owner, religious leaders, and agricultural workers, joined together to launch a new community initiative. The initiative aims to improve waste collection and sorting, specifically carton and plastic waste, by setting up and managing easily accessible collection points within the municipality.

Through joint efforts, the groups have set up seven collection points. In addition, these individuals are engaging with the local municipality, who provided each member with sorting bags to facilitate this process. ACTED also helped connect them with the GIZ municipality focal point to ensure close collaboration and the sustainability of the initiative.

All collected waste is now being transferred to Deir Alla sorting station and has exceeded the municipalities expectations in terms of efficiency and quantity collected. In fact, this initiative has led to a 30% increase quantity of collected waste within the Deir Alla station.



**These successful initiatives express the need to strengthen the roles of individuals within the local community, utilize their potential and unite groups from different nationalities, genders and ages to launch community-driven environmental projects. They are the first to be affected by environmental issues and the first to benefit from their resolution.**



**For more details, check out this video produced by GIZ!**



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