



Project No.: 618103-EPP-1-2020-1-PS-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Edu4ALL

Disability as diversity: The inclusion of students with disabilities in higher education

Deliverable D1.4.2	Edu4ALL Awareness Raising workshop - PTUK
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WP members	Palestine Technical University Kadoorie National & Kapodistrian University of Athens University of the Basque Country Irbid National University Partners for Sustainable Development The University of Jordan Al-Ummah University College Palestine Technical College Int@E UG
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Project information

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Table of Contents

1	List of Figures	6
2	List of Tables	7
3	List of Acronyms	8
4	Executive Summary	9
5	Introduction	9
6	Objectives of the Deliverable	9
7	Methodology	9
7.1	Methodology	13
7.1.1	Methodology	16
8	Results	30
9	Conclusions	30

1 List of Figures

Figure 1. Workshop Invitation.....	10
Figure 2. Agenda of the workshop (Arabic version)	11
Figure 3. List of Participants 1	16
Figure 4. List of Participants 2	16
Figure 5. List of Participants 3	17
Figure 6. List of Participants 4	17
Figure 7. List of Participants 5	18
Figure 8. List of Participants 9	18
Figure 9. List of Participants 10	19
Figure 10. List of Participants 11	19
Figure 11. The Minister of Communications and Information Technology during the workshop	20
Figure 12. The Secretary-General of the Union of Persons with Disabilities, “Mr. Magdy Marei” during the workshop	20
Figure 13. Officials during the workshop	21
Figure 14. Project Coordinator	21
Figure 15. Edu4ALL team – financial manager	22
Figure 16. Edu4ALL workshop - blind participant	22
Figure 17. Edu4ALL workshop - sign language	23
Figure 18. During the workshop – Assistive technology 1.....	23
Figure 19. During the workshop – Assistive technology 2.....	24
Figure 20. During the workshop 1	24
Figure 21. During the workshop 2	25
Figure 22. During the workshop 3	25
Figure 23. The Director of Public Affairs in the province on behalf of the Governor “Mr. Ibrahim Abdel-Al” during the workshop.....	26
Figure 24. Edu4ALL workshop Banner.....	26
Figure 25. Participants from the workshop1	27
Figure 26. Participants from the workshop2	27
Figure 27. PTUK president during the workshop	28
Figure 28. The Director General of the General Administration of Persons with Disabilities in the Ministry of Social Development, “Mr. Ajaj Ajaj” during the workshop	28
Figure 29. People with Disabilities participating in the workshop.....	29



Figure 30. PTUK president during the workshop	30
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2 List of Tables

Table 1. List of Acronyms	8
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3 List of Acronyms

This table shows the acronyms used in this deliverable in alphabetical order.

Table 1. List of Acronyms

Acronym	Description
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
HE	Higher Education
HEI	Higher Education Institution

4 Executive Summary

As a part of task 1.4, entitled: Organizing Awareness Raising Workshop on “Inclusive Education in HEIs”, in 19/12/2021 Palestine Technical University Kadoorie (PTUK), in partnership with the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and sponsored by Bank of Palestine, organized face-2-face awareness raising workshop entitled “Edu4ALL: Empowering and Including Students with disabilities in Higher Education”.

This document is a deliverable related to the Edu4ALL project and aims at reporting the main activities which have been carried out at the workshop.

5 Introduction

The level of care of people with disabilities is a basic criterion for measuring the civilization of nations and their development. By 2050, 937.5 billion persons with disabilities are anticipated to be living worldwide [1]. People with disabilities have the right to equal opportunities in all areas of life (including Education) as well as to live in dignity and freedom. According to the United Nation (UN) convention of the right of people with disabilities, all people have the right to equal education without discrimination and on the basis of equal opportunity [2]. The UN convention mentioned that people with disabilities can access an inclusive education on an equal basis with others in the communities in which they live. Inclusive education means when all students, regardless of any challenges they may have, are placed in one class room to receive high-quality instruction, interventions, and supports that enable them to meet success in the core curriculum.

In 19/12/2021, Palestine Technical University Kadoorie (PTUK), in partnership with the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and sponsored by Bank of Palestine, organized face-2-face awareness raising workshop entitled “Edu4ALL: Empowering and Including Students with disabilities in Higher Education”. Disability support is the main objective of the workshop. It aims at raising the awareness and illustrating the role of inclusive education and its impact for building the capacity of students with disabilities. The reports generated by activities 1.1 and 1.2 are discussed to better understand and identify the needs of students with disabilities in order to provide the best accessibility tools, accommodations, and assistive technologies. More than 150 participants from Palestine attended the workshop including the external evaluator. A detailed list of the participants is included in this report. The workshop is a part of task 1.4 Organizing Awareness Raising Workshop on “Inclusive Education in HEIs”

6 Objectives of the Deliverable

This document is a deliverable related to the Edu4ALL project and aims at reporting the main activities which have been carried out at the workshop.

7 Methodology

The workshop has been structured as a One-day event. Following figures show the Invitation and the agenda of the workshop.





دعوة



تتشرف جامعة فلسطين التقنية - خضوري
بالشراكة مع وزارة الاتصالات وتكنولوجيا المعلومات
وبرعاية بنك فلسطين
بدعوتكم لحضور ورشة عمل بعنوان

Edu4ALL التعليم للجميع

(تمكين ودمج الطلاب ذوي الإعاقة في التعليم الجامعي)



وذلك يوم الأحد الموافق ٢٠٢١/١٢/١٩ في حرم جامعة فلسطين التقنية - خضوري / مدرج الهندسة H021



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

Figure 1. Workshop Invitation



برنامج ورشة العمل	
9:00– 9:30	التسجيل
9:30 – 10:00	الافتتاح الرسمي (قران كريم ونشيد وطني)
10:00 – 10:10	كلمة رئيس الجامعة
10:10- 10:20	كلمة وزارة الاتصالات وتكنولوجيا المعلومات
10:20-10:30	كلمة محافظة طولكرم
10:30-10:40	كلمة اتحاد المعاقين
10:40 – 10:50	كلمة بنك فلسطين (راعي ورشة العمل)
10:50 – 11:10	استراحة
11:10 – 11:20	كلمة الإدارة العامة للأشخاص ذوي الإعاقة
11:20 – 12:20	قصص نجاح
12:20 – 12:30	الادماج الرقمي (وزارة الاتصالات)
12:30 – 12:40	شركة كهرياء القدس (نموذج)
12:40- 12:55	التعليم للجميع والتكنولوجيا المساندة
12:55 – 13:55	حلقة نقاش
14:00	الغداء

Figure 2. Agenda of the workshop (Arabic version)

The English version of the agenda is shown below.

ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME

Capacity Building in the Field of Higher Education

Agenda of the Workshop

Edu4ALL

**Disability as Diversity: The Inclusion of Students
with Disabilities in Higher Education**

Project No.: 618103-EPP-1-2020-1-PS-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Time-Date: Sunday.19.December,2021, 09:00 – 14:00

Palestine Technical University Kadoorie (PTUK)

Engineering Building, H021

Registration 9:00 - 9:30

Official Opening

(Holy Quran and National Anthem) 9:30-10:00

President's Speech . 10:00 – 10:10

Speech of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology 10:10-10:20

Tulkarm Governorate Speech 10:20 – 10:30

Disabled Union Speech 10:30-10:40

Speech of Bank of Palestine (workshop sponsor) 10:40 – 10:50

Break 10:50-11:10

Speech of the General Administration for Persons with Disabilities 11:10 – 11:20

Success Stories 11:20 – 12:20

Digital Inclusion (Ministry of Communications) 12:20 – 12:30

Jerusalem Electricity Company (Model) 12:30-12:40

Education for All and Supportive Technology 12:40-12:55

Panel discussion 12:55 – 13:55



lunch 14:00

7.1 Methodology

In 19/12/2021, Palestine Technical University Kadoorie (PTUK), in partnership with the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and sponsored by Bank of Palestine, organized face-2-face awareness raising workshop entitled “Edu4ALL: Empowering and Including Students with disabilities in Higher Education”. The workshop aims at raising the awareness and illustrating the role of inclusive education and its impact for building the capacity of students with disabilities. More than 150 participants from Palestine attended the workshop including: The President of Palestine Technical University “Prof. Nouraddin Aburob”; 2) the Minister of Communications and Information Technology “Dr. Isaac Sidr”; 3) the Director of Public Affairs in the province on behalf of the Governor “Mr. Ibrahim Abdel-Al”; 4) the Secretary-General of the Union of Persons with Disabilities, “Mr. Magdy Marei”; 5) the Director of the North Branches Department at Bank of Palestine, “Mr. Islam Jaidi”; 6) Director General of the General Administration of Persons with Disabilities in the Ministry of Social Development, “Mr. Ajaj Ajaj”; 7) Director of Training and Development at the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, “Eng. Iyad Oraikat”; and 8) the external evaluator of the Edu4ALL project. Moreover, several civil and community associations and institutions, in addition to persons with sight, hearing and motor disabilities participated in the workshop. To ensure the accessibility for all deaf or hard of hearing persons, the workshop was interpreted with sign language.

The workshop discussed a number of issues facing persons with disabilities especially in terms of integrating them into university education, in addition to the mechanisms for overcoming all obstacles and difficulties that may hinder their path, and how to overcome obstacles and challenges in front of them.

The project coordinator “Dr. Eman Daraghmi” welcomes the attendees, thanking the attendees for their participation in this workshop, which aims to support, empower and raise awareness about inclusive education and the right of students with disabilities in university education, indicating that the issue of people with disabilities and their rights is a global concern, and the level of interest in this category has become a basic criterion to measure the civilization and development of nations. Dr. Daraghmi illustrates that the workshop comes on the sidelines of the Erasmus+ project funded by the European Union, which aims to establish an “Edu4ALL unit” that follows the international standards with the objective of equality in Education, Activities, and Services for students with disabilities. It aims to empower students with disabilities academically, socially, and psychologically through 4 goals: 1) reach; 2) development; 3) equity & quality; 4) sustainability.

The unit will be equipped with the latest assistive technology to integrate students with disabilities into the programs offered at the university by following up their academic, personal and psychological needs and providing the environment and considerate means because of their



personal and physical conditions, equality in education, student activities, and services, thus enhancing their potential and independence. Dr. Daraghmi indicated that a number of local, regional and international universities participate in the project, as Kadoorie University is the main coordinator of the project.

The President of Palestine Technical University Kadoorie - Prof. Nouraddin Aburob illustrates that the university believes in the right to education for all, especially persons with disabilities, and this is what Palestine Technical University Kadoorie pursues as a university for the state and for all Palestinians. Prof. Aburob confirmed that the university harnesses all its capabilities and laboratories in order to serve the local community, and the university is keen in its infrastructure to equip its facilities to suit students with disabilities and ensure the availability of a university environment that meets their needs, to build a generation capable of building an independent Palestinian state, wishing success for the partners in making this project a success and achieving its national and humanitarian goals.

Dr. Sidr, the Minister of Communications and Information Technology, expressed his happiness to participate in the workshop that seeks to empower and integrate persons with disabilities into university education, pointing out that this workshop is an appropriate opportunity to emphasize the need to redouble efforts collectively, to ensure the dignity and rights of this great group, which is a common responsibility shared by individuals, institutions, associations and government. Dr. Sidr briefed the attendees on the steps taken by the Ministry to facilitate the lives of citizens, especially those with disabilities, such as adopting the national policy for digital transformation and information security policy.

Mr. Marai thanked those in charge of this project for its importance and its contact with a large segment of Palestinian society, stressing that the union's participation comes within the framework of shedding light on the reality of persons with disabilities. Mr. Marai emphasized the importance of the access to a safe university environment that is compatible with disabled students' needs. He added that the social responsibility of universities must be invested, and various active institutions in society in order to reach an inclusive, embracing and diversified society in all its categories. He also stressed that there are many steps and measures taken by the government in order to integrate persons with disabilities, noting that there are many successful models that persons with disabilities have set up in many important positions.

On the other hand, Mr. Abdel-Aal stressed the importance of the workshop, which deals with an important segment of citizens, namely the category of students with disabilities, to reveal the reality of their suffering and issues on the one hand, and to confront the challenges they face and realize their hopes. Mr. Abdel-Aal added that the Palestinian Authority, through the Ministry of Education, has for years been adopting projects to support the right to education for this category. The ministry has a comprehensive plan through laws and regulations that stipulate the harmonization of everything that serves this category of buildings, curricula, equipment, systems and support services, especially because they have proven their worth in various locations with the strength of their will and determination.



Mr. Jaidi expressed his happiness to participate in this workshop, indicating that Bank of Palestine support for this workshop stems from its keenness to support and strengthen this marginalized group of our society, and the need to involve and integrate it in all societal fields, including university education. He added, "We are proud to be part of these good efforts, which are consistent with our goals and vision, to apply the values methodology in banking work, by adopting the principles of sustainable financing, adhering to environmental and social standards, and enhancing the role of women, youth, children and people with disabilities."

Mr. Ajaj gave a presentation on the reality of persons with disabilities in Palestine, indicating that the statistics of the Palestinian Central Statistics Authority show an increase in their numbers relative to the total number of the population, noting that the education of persons with disabilities in Palestine began from an early age, as the field of blind education constituted a large part of this educational movement, which started at the beginning of the third decade of the last century and at various levels of school and university education. Mr. Ajaj added that Palestine is one of the first countries in implementing the right to education for people with disabilities in practical, legal and human rights terms, as Palestine has committed to more than one hundred international agreements, including basic agreements on Human rights without reservations, and the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Mr. Ajaj also listed a number of obstacles facing persons with disabilities in obtaining university education, including the absence of unified regulations or executive regulations binding on all universities, colleges and institutes regarding the education of persons with disabilities, in addition to societal obstacles, which are represented in: The stereotypical image of some families about the importance of university education for people with disabilities, especially girls, as environmental obstacles related to the ease of access to universities and colleges. This is in addition to the extent to which the university's physical environment is compatible with the individuals of this category and the general design of services, programs and others.

During the meeting, some success stories were presented to people who overcame audio-visual and motor disabilities and practiced their professional and educational lives with high efficiency. Then, the Jerusalem Electricity Company, in cooperation with the Palestinian Energy Incubator, presented innovations that would improve the lives of persons with disabilities.

Dr. Yousef Daraghma gave a presentation on the devices and tools that will be included in the project and that will serve people with audio, visual and movement disabilities. In this context, Mr. Jawad Abu Own presented how to achieve digital access by designing websites to be suitable for people with disabilities.

At the end of the workshop, a panel discussion was held and guided by Mr. Zafer Hasouna to discuss the conditions and needs of people with disabilities. The participants in the workshop agreed on the need to pay attention to the category of persons with disabilities by strengthening the partnership between them and the various educational, civil and official institutions and the private sector to enhance their capabilities by searching for ideas and creative solutions, enabling them to overcome the difficulties of daily life, in addition to integrating them further in the discussion of various issues of interest to them at various levels.



7.1.1 Methodology

This section shows the list of participants and display some pictures taken from the workshop. More than 150 participants from Palestine attended the workshop including: The President of Palestine Technical University “Prof. Nouraddin Aburob”; 2) the Minister of Communications and Information Technology “Dr. Isaac Sidr”; 3) the Director of Public Affairs in the province on behalf of the Governor “Mr. Ibrahim Abdel-Al”; 4) the Secretary-General of the Union of Persons with Disabilities, “Mr. Magdy Marei”; 5) the Director of the North Branches Department at Bank of Palestine, “Mr. Islam Jaidi”; 6) Director General of the General Administration of Persons with Disabilities in the Ministry of Social Development, “Mr. Ajaj Ajaj”; 7) Director of Training and Development at the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, “Eng. Iyad Oraikat”; and 8) the external evaluator of the Edu4ALL project. Following figures show the list of participants.

مشروع التعليم للجميع Edu4ALL

رقم الهاتف	الايمل	المؤسسة	الاسم
0598735988	-	جمعية المكفوفين والمكفوفات	عمار حماد زيب
0503533468	-	مفتوري	الوردانية
059492436	-	مفتوري	عبد الله زكريا يوسف شحمة
0568536410	-	مفتوري	سليم محمد عبد القادر جابر
		مفتوري	عبد الرحمن ابو مزح

Figure 3. List of Participants 1

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Figure 4. List of Participants 2



مشروع التعليم للجميع Edu4All

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Figure 5. List of Participants 3

مشروع التعليم للجميع Edu4All

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0595979335	—	خضوي طابطة	أمواج دروي
0569996243	—	خضوي طاب	مؤيد مؤيد
0599720949	—	خضوي طاب	عبدالله عبد الله
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—	—	—	لينا ابراهيم

Figure 6. List of Participants 4

مشروع التعليم للجميع Edu4All

الاسم	المؤسسة	الايمل	رقم الهاتف
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Figure 7. List of Participants 5

مشروع التعليم للجميع Edu4All

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عجاج حجاب	وزارة الشؤون المحلية		0595901089
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دارين محمد حجاب	اعلام		
أحمد محمد زبور	اعلام		
عبد السلام حجابي	مواطنة معادي		059844400
شام محمد قطوع	مدرسة ذ. د. العفندي س.ع		0544719184
فرح واصل محمد عيسى	مؤسسة منطوية		
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Figure 8. List of Participants 9



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0598000872	—	جمعية قانون الخيرية/العلم	محمود محمد قنبل
—	—	—	عبد الله محمد قنبل
—	—	—	عبد الله محمد قنبل
—	—	—	عبد الله محمد قنبل
—	—	—	عبد الله محمد قنبل
—	—	—	عبد الله محمد قنبل
—	—	—	عبد الله محمد قنبل
—	—	—	عبد الله محمد قنبل
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Figure 9. List of Participants 10

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Figure 10. List of Participants 11





Figure 11. The Minister of Communications and Information Technology during the workshop



Figure 12. The Secretary-General of the Union of Persons with Disabilities, “Mr. Magdy Marei” during the workshop



Figure 13. Officials during the workshop



Figure 14. Project Coordinator



Figure 15. Edu4ALL team – financial manager



Figure 16. Edu4ALL workshop - blind participant



Figure 17. Edu4ALL workshop - sign language



Figure 18. During the workshop – Assistive technology 1



Figure 19. During the workshop – Assistive technology 2



Figure 20. During the workshop 1



Figure 21. During the workshop 2



Figure 22. During the workshop 3



Figure 23. The Director of Public Affairs in the province on behalf of the Governor “Mr. Ibrahim Abdel-Al” during the workshop



Figure 24. Edu4ALL workshop Banner



Figure 25. Participants from the workshop1



Figure 26. Participants from the workshop2



Figure 27. PTUK president during the workshop



Figure 28. The Director General of the General Administration of Persons with Disabilities in the Ministry of Social Development, “Mr. Ajaj Ajaj” during the workshop



Figure 29. People with Disabilities participating in the workshop



Figure 30. PTUK president during the workshop

8 Results

The participants in the workshop agreed on the need to pay attention to the category of persons with disabilities by strengthening the partnership between them and the various educational, civil and official institutions and the private sector to enhance their capabilities by searching for ideas and creative solutions, enabling them to overcome the difficulties of daily life, in addition to integrating them further in the discussion of various issues of interest to them at various levels.

9 Conclusions

An awareness raising workshop on “Inclusive Education in HEIs” took place physically at PTUK, Tulkarm, Palestine, 19 December 2021. The workshop entitled “Edu4ALL: Empowering and Including Students with disabilities in Higher Education”. The workshop aims at raising the awareness and illustrating the role of inclusive education and its impact for building the capacity of students with disabilities. More than 150 participants from Palestine attended the workshop including the external evaluator. The participants concluded that there is a need to create an

academic environment conducive to disabilities by supporting their academic social and psychological needs with suitable equipment, tools, and relevant policies. Also, the participants in the workshop agreed that there is a need to pay attention to the category of persons with disabilities by strengthening the partnership between them and the various educational, civil and official institutions and the private sector to enhance their capabilities by searching for ideas and creative solutions, enabling them to overcome the difficulties of daily life, in addition to integrating them further in the discussion of various issues of interest to them at various levels.



