

**First MENA Regional Breast  
Cancer Advocacy  
Conference.**  
**US-Middle East  
Partnership for Breast  
Cancer Awareness and  
Research**



**Building Bridges  
for Advocates  
Across  
The MENA  
Region**



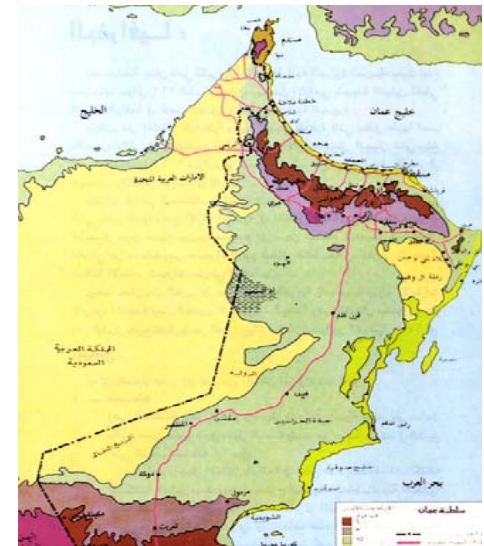
# Volunteerism In The MENA Region

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Oman

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Amman - Jordan



# Volunteerism



- The Willingness and ability of citizens to give their time, out of sense of solidarity and without expectation of monetary reward.
- Occurs spontaneously or expressed through civil society organizations.
- Is grounded in the principles of choice and free will. Hence expressed differently.

# Volunteerism

## Existed for Centuries



- A universal human phenomenon that occurs across all cultures, economic levels, religions, genders and ages.
- Is a product of its environment. Affected by customs and traditions as well as public policy and legal considerations.
- Volunteer infrastructure should develop through Dialogue and collaboration among the stakeholders.

# Common Elements and management capacity



1. Reaching a common understanding of volunteerism and a shared value of its value.
  2. Establishing and nurturing an enabling environment.
  3. Adopting a diversity of approaches to mobilizing and facilitating volunteerism.
  4. Ensuring sustainable
1. Formal start up training for volunteer managers.
  2. Periodic refresher courses & workshop.
  3. Networks of practitioners for sharing experiences.
  4. Learning from documentation.
  5. Analysis of past and on

# Funding



- Promoting volunteerism raises public awareness and support.
- Obtaining financial resources to organize, support and sustain volunteer efforts is challenging because economic priorities change while the need for funding remains.
- Potential donors are at times hesitant to fund start- up initiatives looking instead for proven results and long term sustainability.

# Volunteerism and The UN Politicization

1997 Declaration of International  
Year of Volunteers- 2001

Since then six resolutions

## Consensus

Opportunities for volunteering be open both to Men and women, given their different levels of participation in different areas, and recognizing the potential positive effect of volunteering on the empowerment of women.



# The National Association For Cancer Awareness-

## Oman

### Objectives

1. Advocacy and Awareness for all Cancers
2. Patient support and empowerment.
3. Education and Training
4. Research

### Tools

1. **Communicate**  
Talk & Listen.
2. **Connect**  
People emotionally and culturally.
3. **Collaborate**  
To get Cure.



**The clock never turns back- Outcomes**

# Regional Challenges



- Acceptance & talking about cancer.
- Cancer and the educated.
- Trained manpower.
- Understanding of the concept of Advocacy and Volunteerism.
- Data banking.
- Active and committed membership/volunteer
- Time to a specialist
- Active and sustained support by decision makers.
- Working together.
- Corporate social responsibility
- Lack of regional communication & knowledge sharing.

# Recommended Solution



1. Capacity Building Locally.  
Team leaders/ Train the trainer
2. Knowledge sharing and transfer.  
Locally/regionally/Globally
3. Proper governance and managers.
4. Development of Volunteer Infrastructure.
5. Patient empowerment and involvement.

# Recommended Solution



6. Understanding the role of media/private sector.
7. Building trust within and between communities.
8. Develop Political Will.
9. Training for Research development.
10. Think globally and act locally.

# Conclusion



- At the heart of volunteerism are the ideals of service and solidarity, ingenuity, creativity of many ordinary people and the belief that together we can make the world better by achieving most of things.
- Infrastructure should include strategies for involving all segments of the society.
- Decide at onset of task the appropriate mix of volunteers.





# Achievement

“Hereditary dictates what we can achieve. Environment determines what is achievable.”

Prof. Pushpa Bhargava

Those who cannot remember the Past  
are condemned to repeat it.

**George**

**Santayana**

# This Girl Has A right for A bright Future



# Thank You