

The Project Work of the Hanns Seidel Foundation:

North Africa, Near and Middle East, South Asia

The only thing that separates the countries in **NORTH AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST** from Europe is the Mediterranean Sea. Thus, these countries are important partners in the field of development cooperation. The major objective of the Hanns Seidel Foundation's efforts is the **promotion of democratic state structures that are based on the rule of law** in particular, and the **support of economic and social progress**. We have implemented concrete project measures in the fields of **administrative promotion, management training** as well as in the area of socio-political education and **vocational training**.



The Hanns Seidel Foundation has representatives in Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia, Egypt, Israel, Palestine,

Jordan, Syria and the Lebanon. Furthermore, the HSF pursues activities in South Asia, i.e. in Pakistan and in India (involved in the political dialogue among other things), as well as in Afghanistan (reconstruction of the educational system) and Kyrgyzstan (self-governance reform).

The Foundation's work in **EGYPT** started in 1978. It focuses on **measures to increase the performance of the local and regional administration**, and on **increasing the citizens' participation in political decision-making processes at regional level**. The Hanns Seidel Foundation supported the establishment of information and communication centres in each of the 26 Egypt provinces. These centres promote the

dialogue between the citizens and the government on the realisation of political strategies at regional level; these strategies aim at improving the living conditions of the people, especially in the less developed regions. The issues tackled in the past years comprise **the improvement of the regional educa-**



tional infrastructure through to house building, **town planning, protection of historical monuments, eco-tourism**, questions of how to set up self-employed business activities, expanding the infrastructure, up to renewables.

Within the framework of **REGIONAL PROJECTS**, the Hanns Seidel Foundation pursues activities in the countries of **Jordan, Syria and the Lebanon**. The objective of the measures that were started in 1998 is adult education, which aims at **reducing the poverty of disadvantaged population groups**, in the rural areas in particular. Advancement of women's opportunities is another focus of our work there. **Measures in the fields of environment, tourism and education** aim at **strengthening** the participants' willingness to **help themselves** and to **take on responsibility for themselves**. Another aim is to promote their intellectual and professional development. Furthermore, we want to convey **basic values such as tolerance, democracy and co-existence** in order to **promote the peace process** in this region. The project partners involved in these three countries cooperate with each other in order to guarantee the **sustainability of the projects**.

In **SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA**, the HSF pursues activities in Pakistan and in India as well as in Afghanistan und Kyrgyzstan. The Pakistan project has been in existence since 1992. The basis of our activities is **the cooperation with the Senate of Pakistan**. Building on this basis, regional political contacts have developed that again lay the basis **for meetings and conferences** on important topics in the region (the dialogue between Pakistan and India among other things). The measures taken in India comprise the fields of **management training and promoting institutions**, and the important issue of **the dialogue on security policy**. In Afghanistan, the HSF is committed to **the re-construction of the educational system**; in Kirghizia, the Foundation started to cooperate successfully with the management academy in Bishkek, which provides trainings for **local self-government representatives and public administration**.

In **INDIA**, the government passed the so-called "Common Minimum Programme" in 2004. This programme has defined the **promotion of women in the fields of politics, law, economic issues and in the educational sector** as an objective. As early as in 1996, the HSF has started to commit itself to promoting women. To give you an example: Through **workshops for those wishing to set up their own business**,



women shall be enabled to realise their business ideas. The Foundation's efforts include the transition from an urban to a rural programme; the objective here is to **'help people help themselves'**. Another objective is to provide **female executives with management training courses** for them to undergo further education. Finally, the cooperation with currently three Indian women's organisations serves the institutional anchoring of the Indian organisations in the country's social life.

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For more detailed information on our project
work, please go to:

www.hss.de/4359.shtml



Established in 1967,
the Hanns Seidel
Foundation is a Ger-
man political Foun-
dation. We are currently committed in the
international development cooperation to help
run 90 projects world-wide.

In Germany, the Hanns Seidel Foundation
runs the educational centres Wildbad Kreuth,
Banz Monastery and the Munich Conference
Centre. Practice-oriented political consul-
tancy by means of conferences and publi-
cations, political education by means of
seminars as well as scholarships for under-
graduates, graduates and PhD students are the
focuses of our work in Germany.

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