

# VEGA

## Volunteers for Economic Growth Alliance

### *Zahra Radjavi, 2011 VEGA Volunteer Impact Service Award Recipient*

Zahra Radjavi works as the Emerging Markets Development Advisor Program (EMDAP) Adviser/Business Development Consultant with Petra National Trust (PNT). EDMAP is sponsored by VEGA member, the International Institute of Education (IIE). PNT, the only non-profit Jordanian organization, is solely focused on the protection preservation and conservation of the archaeological, natural, and cultural heritage of Petra and the Petra Region.

Zahra Radjavi led efforts to create and implement sustainable income streams and endowments for PNT including but not limited to: fundraising, new product/service development, and grant writing. Zahra also worked closely with the Director, Board, and staff to contribute her expertise and experience with global NGO best practices to increase the capacity and efficiency of staff to carry out PNT's mission.



While in Jordan, Zahra developed the Petra Junior Ranger Program Kit and Operations Manual with revised lesson plans based on lessons learned during the pilot. She also developed new more comprehensible and age appropriate and culturally sensitive lesson plans while streamlining the Petra Junior Ranger curriculum based on lessons learned during the pilot workshop. This resulted in a new approach to teaching the complex concepts of preservation and conservation to children.

Zahra also planned, prepared for, and conducted a Petra Junior Ranger Workshops in Rajef and Dlagha for 7-9 year old children. Tasks included conducting site visits to Petra to identify collaborative partners, workshop facilities, and graduation event facility; identifying and utilizing external sources like the Peace Corps volunteers located in Rajef and Wadi Musa to assist with the workshop implementation; writing formal invitations for the program graduation event to Royals on the PNT Board, PNT Board members, Donors (USAID, DOI, US Embassy, Peace Corps Jordan), Collaborative partners, PDTRA, etc. requesting attendance and participations wherever required. She also wrote event speeches and presentations for HRH Prince Raad and PNT event coordinator, which were then translated into Arabic.

Zahra also recruited four volunteers under her direct supervision to assist with the evaluation of the pilot programs and implement two additional workshops to test the revised curriculum and lesson plans. She developed an agreement and contract with the German Development Service (GIZ/Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit) to hire an intern for one year starting September 2011. In addition, Zahra identified a Peace Corps volunteer from the Petra Region to assist with Junior Ranger program implementation. She worked directly with Peace Corps Volunteers and management to draft a scope of work for the Peace Corps volunteer who is to extend her service to assist with institutionalizing the Petra Junior Ranger Program.



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