



المجلس العربي للطفولة والتنمية  
Arab Council for Childhood and Development



# **35 Years of Achievements for the Arab Child**

A Continuing Developmental Journey









## The Establishment

of the Arab Council for Childhood and Development (ACCD) upon the Initiative of HRH the late Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud

“ACCD is an Arab institution concerned with childhood throughout the Arab world and seeks to cooperate with every effort for the future of the Arab child in any of the countries of our nation. ACCD has a role in stimulating attention to the various dimensions of the issues of the Arab child”

**HRH the late Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud**

The Founder of ACCD



## A Continuing Journey

under the Auspices of HRH Prince Abdulaziz  
bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud

"We pledge to continue the legacy of the father, HRH the late Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, in order to support a better future for our children and for the care and development of their rights, as this enlightened legacy must remain flowing, continuous and vibrant with all the meanings of giving and philanthropy"

**HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud**

The President of ACCD



# Preface

**Prof. Hassan Al-Bilawi**  
Secretary General

**On the occasion of the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of ACCD**, we launch this booklet to commemorate the extended developmental journey of ACCD and to honor HRH the late Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, the Founder of ACCD and whose legacy will remain forever. As a matter of fact, the idea of ACCD establishment occurred in a very critical and crucial historical circumstance and evolved into an incident that deserves to be genuinely contemplated. ACCD is the first council dedicated for childhood at the Arab level, which was founded upon a pioneering initiative of an exceptional personality, HRH the late Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, and upon an Arab will that was embodied in a recommendation by the "Childhood and Development" Conference held under the auspices of the League of Arab States (LAS) in 1986, as well as upon political and developmental support accompanied by an international and regional movement to place children at the center of attention and on the agenda of decision makers, policy makers and implementers.

ACCD's launch was witnessed by the richest, unprecedented, intellectual heritage of public figures, developmentalists, Arab leaders and thinkers, who unanimously agreed on the need for ACCD to be a mechanism for mobilizing forces and energies and coordinating efforts for the advancement of Arab child status. Since that time, ACCD has assumed this responsibility according to clear Vision and Mission, so as to achieve several initiatives, programs, projects and activities through a developmental process and in an effort to protect, develop and care for the Arab children and ensure their rights.

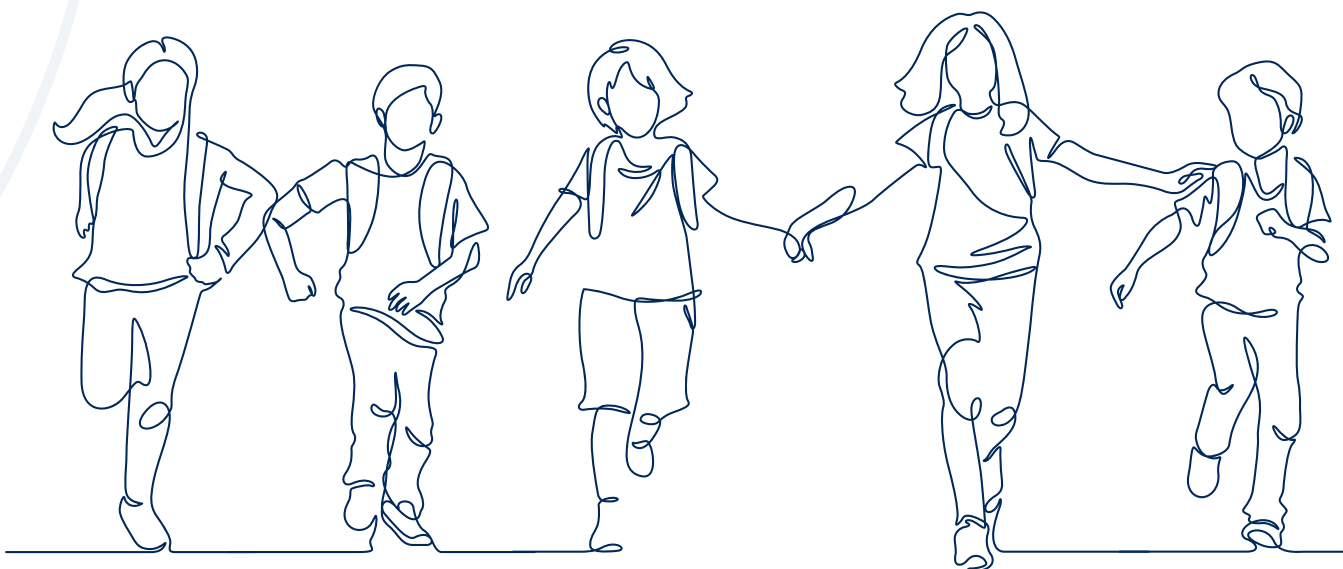
In this journey that we are proud of, many achievements have been attained with several partners and friends. We have gained a prominent regional position as a house of expertise pertaining to the Arab child. However, it was not easy and there were difficulties and challenges that emerged due to the problems faced by the Arab child on several levels, pursuant to the political, economic and social changes the region has experienced, not to mention the conflicts and crises, in which children were the first affected.

With this extended journey, and despite the emergence of further unprecedented challenges in recent years, our insightful vision, the hope we treasure and the work we are accomplishing with partners, all render us optimistic regarding the continuation of that legacy, with the support and patronage of HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, ACCD President, who is currently leading the ACCD with enthusiasm and enlightening vision so as to fulfill the promise and covenant, complete the path towards empowering our children in accordance with global changes and prepare them for a different future.

Tribute to the spirit of the initiator and Founder, HRH the late Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, who shall always be our guiding and role model, and His Highness thoughts will remain the source of our inspiration. Also, a genuine appreciation to HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, ACCD President, who continues our journey towards building a better future for the Arab child.

Finally, as we present the ACCD's illuminating journey in this booklet, we extend our thanks to our supportive strategic partner, the Arab Gulf Programme for Development (AGFUND), the current and former members of the Boards of Trustees, all partners at regional, international and national levels, as well as to the numerous experts, specialists and media professionals with whom ACCD has dealt over the years of its history.

**How beautiful it is that we all work to make children smile.**





## The Story of the ACCD Launch and the Beginning of the Journey

ACCD was established in 1987, as an Arab regional non-governmental organization, upon the initiative of HRH the late Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, and a recommendation issued by LAS at the "Childhood and Development" Conference held in Tunisia in 1986, to establish an Arab council for the advancement of the Arab child affairs.

**+300**

Experts, Thinkers  
& Public Figures

**16**

Arab  
Countries

**14**

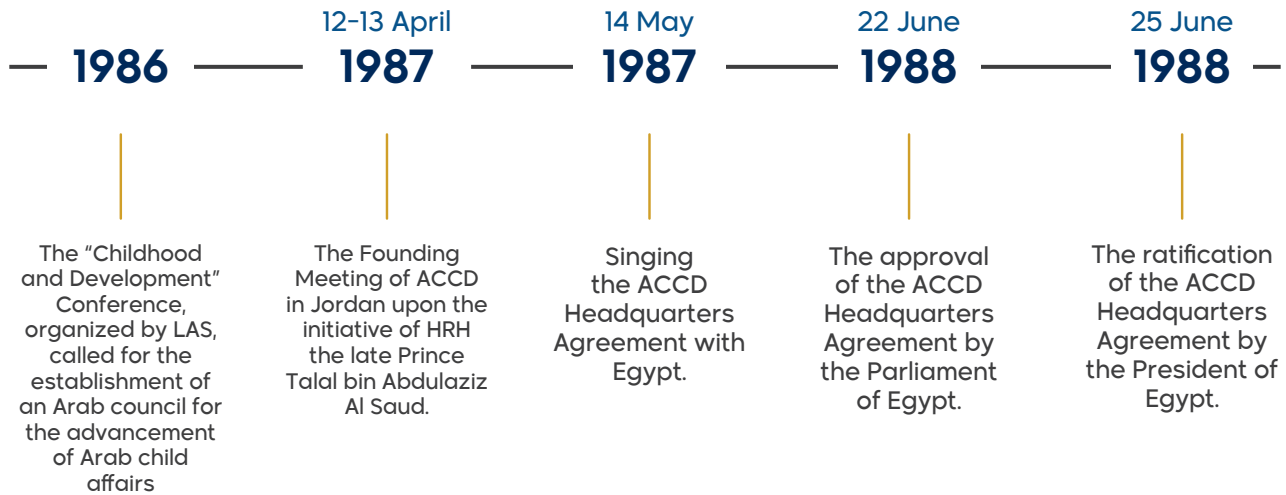
International &  
Regional Organizations

## From Amman was the launch of the ACCD and its headquarters is in Cairo

The Founding Meeting of ACCD was held in Jordan (April 1987) in the presence of more than 300 experts, thinkers and public figures from 16 Arab countries and 14 international and regional organizations. This Founding Meeting resulted in announcing the establishment of ACCD, as an Arab non-governmental organization for childhood care and development, under the presidency of HRH the late Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud. In May 1987, Egypt announced hosting the headquarters of ACCD in Cairo, and ACCD's relationship with the host country is regulated by a special agreement for this purpose with the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs that defines its identity and legal status (diplomatic body).



# Important Dates



The Founding Meeting – Amman, Jordan 1987





## المجلس العربي للطفولة والتنمية Arab Council for Childhood and Development

### ACCD Vision

A leading Arab organization and a reference for institutions and individuals, in thought and practice, in the upbringing and development of the Arab children, guaranteeing their rights, enriching their awareness and enabling them to interact positively with the requirements of the future.

### ACCD Mission

Developing an enlightened educational stream of thought, creating enabling environments supportive of the upbringing of the Arab children and building their capacities for rational critical thinking, creativity and acquiring modern skills, as well as ensuring the enforcement of their rights and the opportunities for their continuous development and their participation in building their homeland along the path of human civilization.



# ACCD Board of Trustees



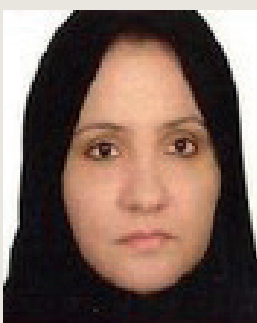
**HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud**  
Chairman of the Board



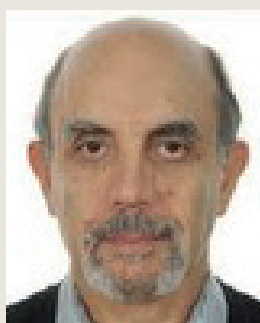
**H.E. Dr. Nasser Alkahtani**  
Executive Director  
AGFUND



**H.E. Prof. Hassan Al-Bilawi**  
Secretary General  
ACCD



**H.E. Prof. Nahla Gahwaji**  
Dean of the College of Human  
Sciences and Design  
King Abdulaziz University



**H.E. Mr. Ghanem Bebei**  
Expert in Health and  
Education Development



**H.E. Dr. Ghada Gholam**  
Ex-officer in Charge of UNESCO  
Cairo Office,  
Senior Education Specialist

Over the course of ACCD's work journey, several Boards of Trustees and Advisory and Technical Committees were formed, and included an elite of senior figures in the fields of development and human rights from various Arab countries and international and regional organizations.

# ACCD in Numbers

**35**

Years of giving & achievements for the advancement of the Arab child.

**90**

The number of Cooperation Agreements signed by ACCD, since its establishment, with AGFUND and Partners.

**130**

The number of Programs, Projects and Activities implemented by ACCD in the Arab countries.

**150**

The number of ACCD's Partners at the international, regional and national levels.

**200**

The number of Studies, Researches and Guiding & Training Manuals issued by ACCD.

**300**

The Founding Members of ACCD that included experts, thinkers and public figures from 16 Arab countries.

**350**

The number of Events, Conferences, Seminars and Workshops held by ACCD.

**500**

The number of Media Materials (Annual Reports, Press Files and Media Brochures) issued by ACCD.

## **ACCD and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)**

HRH the late Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud believed that “care of children is the main approach to every effort that seeks to achieve real human development”. In pursuit of His Highness to truly institutionalize the efforts aimed at advancing the conditions of the Arab child, especially after the tireless efforts made by His Highness all over the world when he was the UNICEF Special Envoy, HRH Prince Talal initiated the establishment of ACCD in 1987, before the adoption of the CRC by the United Nations in 1989.

Hence, the establishment of ACCD coincided with the Arab and international efforts to endorse the CRC. ACCD initiated to coordinate efforts and cooperate with LAS and UNICEF to advance the conditions of Arab childhood. In 1989, ACCD actively participated in the Arab and international activities aimed at advocating for the adoption of the CRC by the member states of the United Nations.

The philosophy of ACCD is based on creating an Arab supportive environment for child rights in development, protection, participation and inclusion. ACCD adopts a comprehensive integrated approach to ensure child rights in accordance with the CRC and the relevant international and Arab covenants, through effective cooperation and partnership with governmental, regional and international institutions.

ACCD contributes to the realization of the CRC through achieving its strategic goals, which are represented in encouraging, adopting and developing ideas, studies, projects, legislations and policies that aim at activating child rights and integrating them into development plans and projects. Moreover, ACCD seeks to achieve the sustainable development goals (SDGs) through applying its Model for Arab Child Upbringing “Education for Hope” and its components in partnership with AGFUND, the strategic partner of ACCD.



**All the efforts exerted by ACCD towards the enforcement of child rights lead to the achievement of the SDGs, based on ACCD's strategic direction towards education for hope, including its approaches of the rights-based approach, empowerment, participation and self-awakening.**

ACCD and  
the SDGs



ACCD Model for Arab Child Upbringing «Education for Hope» is a Philosophical Framework that Combines Thought and Practice

# A New Mind for a New Human in a New Society

Based on its accumulated experience in its various practical and intellectual paths since its establishment, ACCD has formulated a developmental vision based on several intellectual circles that include: the rights-based approach, the approach of developing capacity, empowerment and participation and the approach of raising awareness and awakening the human self. As a result, ACCD was motivated to take the initiative, in partnership with AGFUND in 2014, to develop a new model for Arab child upbringing "Education for Hope" under the slogan "A New Mind for a New Human in a New Society".

The "Education for Hope" Model constitutes a coherent unit, in thought and practice, that is applied in all the programs and projects of ACCD. This approach of ACCD coincided with the global movement that was culminated in the adoption of the SDGs by all Member States of the United Nations in 2015.

Since then, ACCD is working, under the auspices of HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, towards implementing the "Education for Hope" Model through its strategic plans. ACCD is also updating its Model in accordance with the SDGs, especially after adding a new intellectual circle to the Model on the empowerment of Arab children in the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and beyond.

The "Education for Hope" Model achieves the SDGs and reflects ACCD's vision in integrated logical contexts for the Arab child development. The Model aims at developing children's awareness and awakening their creative self, in addition to unleashing their human energies and building their abilities, in order to help them live a decent life, achieve positive citizenship and empowering them in the knowledge society and in the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and beyond.

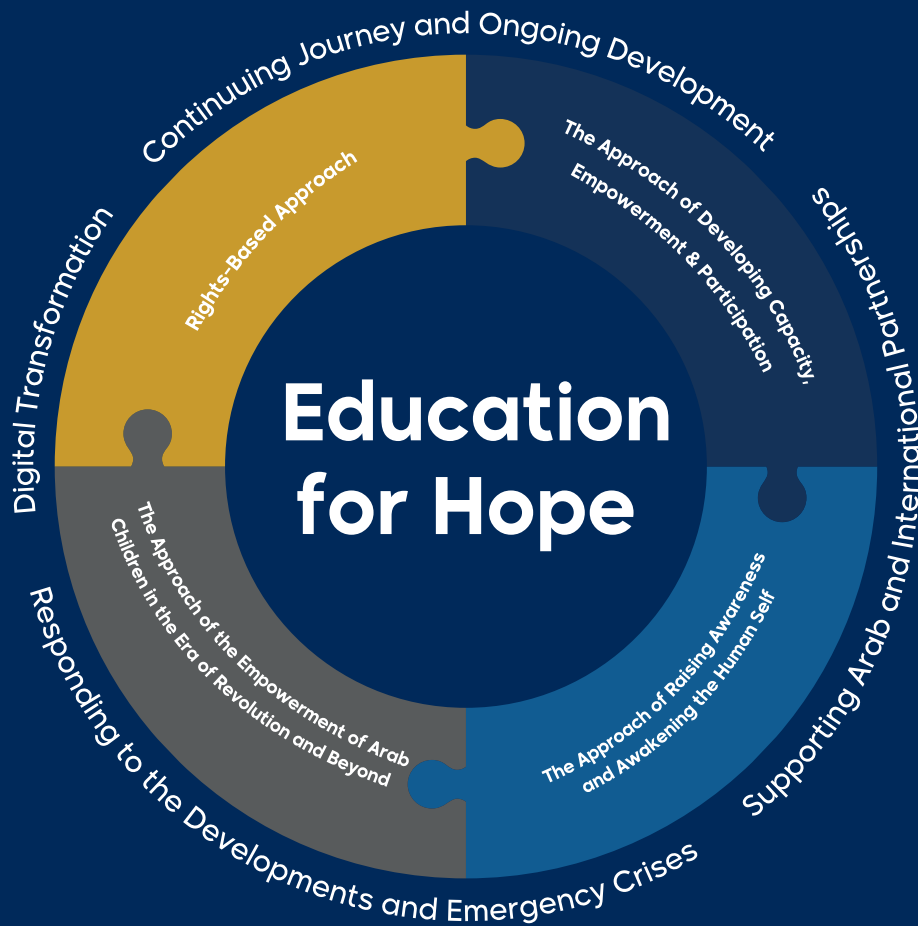
## Targeted Values to be Acquired by Children According to the "Education for Hope" Model

Tolerance - Respect - Initiative - Honesty  
- Cooperation - Responsibility - Justice & Equity - Appreciation for Science - Respect for Work - Empathy.



# ACCD Continues the Journey under the Auspices of HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud

The Current Programs and Projects of the Model for Arab Child Upbringing "Education for Hope" that are implemented by ACCD in partnership with AGFUND



The Intellectual Framework of "Education for Hope" Model

- Supporting Capacity Building of Upbringing Institutions to Apply the "Education for Hope" Model.
- Capacity Development for Early Detection and Intervention among Stakeholders Concerned with Children with Disabilities within the Context of Scientific Advancement and Technological Progress.
- The Rehabilitation and Inclusion of Children in Street Situations and Homeless Children "I Have Chosen Hope".
- Arab Civil Society Forum for Children & Arab Children Forum.
- The Strategies of Moving towards the Future to Empower Arab Children in the Era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and Beyond.
- Arab Childhood Training Academy (ACTA).
- Child Rights and Climate Change "Towards Building a Sustainable World".



# ACCD and The Issues of Child Rights and Upbringing



المجلس العربي للطفولة والتنمية  
Arab Council for Childhood and Development

Children in Street Situations

Child Labour

Children Participation

Child Upbringing

Early Childhood Development

Supporting Civil Society

Training and Capacity Development

Inclusion of Children with Disabilities

Combating Violence against Children

Child Friendly Media

Child Culture Development

Knowledge Development

Responding to the Developments and Emergency Crises

The Empowerment of Children in the Era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and Beyond

# Milestones in ACCD

## Journey of Achievements

### 1987

The establishment of ACCD.

### 1988

- Call for the establishment of higher councils and national committees for childhood in the Arab countries.
- "Towards a Better Cultural Future for the Arab Child" Seminar.

### 1989

- A Seminar on "Kindergarten in the Arab World between Reality and the Future".
- Issuing the first Statistical Report on the Status of the Arab Child.
- Issuing Al-Mukhtar Magazine for Children.

### 1990

- Sponsoring and supporting the Cairo International Film Festival for Children for 9 consecutive years.
- Participating in the World Summit for Children (United Nations - New York) and submitting a Unified Arab Document for the Arab Child that was prepared in coordination with LAS.

### 1991

- The Project of Confronting the Phenomenon of Children in Street Situations.
- The Project of Confronting the Impacts of the Gulf War on the Arab Children.
- The Project of "Alternative Day Care for Pre-school Children".

### 1992

- Supporting the Hope Village Society for Children in Street Situations.
- The Project of Home Program for Training Mothers of Children with Disabilities.

### 1993

- The first Regional Study on Child Labour, involving 9 Arab States, and launching the Project of Combating Child Labour.
- ACCD's participation in the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna, by sending 17 children (boys and girls) from various Arab countries to participate in the Children's Conference accompanying the World Conference.

### 1994

- The Project of Higher Councils and National Committees for Childhood in the Arab Countries and holding Regional Workshops.
- The Project of Supporting the Southern Lebanon for Children with Disabilities.

### 1995

- The Arab Girl Project and developing a Study on the Status of the Arab Girl, as well as submitting its outputs to the World Conference on Women in Beijing.
- The Project of Training Researchers in the Fields of Childhood.
- The Project of Children with Special Needs and the Project of Educational Cadres.

## 1996

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- Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Mentor International Foundation, in the presence of the Queen of Sweden, the Crown Prince of Luxembourg and the Queen of Jordan.
- Competition to Create and Design an Arab Cartoon Character for the Arab Child.
- The Projects of "Family Education", "Training and Evaluation" and "The Status of Youth and Childhood".

## 1997

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- ACCD received the First Leadership Award in the field of Arab Childhood Service from the Higher Council for Childhood in the Emirate of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.

## 1998

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- Young Researchers Forum.
- Identifying the reality of children's cinema through organizing a Symposium entitled "Children's Cinema .. Realities and Future".

## 1999

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- The Arab Project for the Development of Child Culture.
- The Project of Drafting Arab Strategies for Working with Children with Disabilities.
- Regional Workshop on "Addressing the Phenomenon of Children in Street Situations at the Arab Level".

## 2000

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- A Study on the Status of Higher Councils and National Committees for Childhood in the Arab Countries that included 16 Arab countries.
- A Study on the Phenomenon of Children in Street Situations.

## 2001

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- Fundraising Ceremony in favor of children in street situations, the donations of which were allocated to support a Project in 5 Arab countries.
- "The Development of Child Rights" Project.
- Mobilizing the perspectives of the Arab civil society to prepare for ACCD's participation in the United Nations Special Session on Children, through organizing the First Arab Regional Civil Society Forum on Childhood in Morocco.

## 2002

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- The first Regional Study on Child Labour, involving 9 Arab States, and launching the Project of Combating Child Labour.
- ACCD's participation in the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna, by sending 17 children (boys and girls) from various Arab countries to participate in the Children's Conference accompanying the World Conference.

## 2003

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- The translation and Arabization of the comprehensive training program for the design, implementation and evaluation of the intervention programs generated to address the problem of child labour, in cooperation with the IPEC - ILO Program.
- General Guiding Framework to address the worst forms of child labour and disseminating it to the Arab countries.

## 2004

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- Diagnosing the reality of early childhood problems in the Arab world through issuing the Analytical Report on Early Childhood Problems in the Arab World.
- The Arab Strategy to Confronting the Phenomenon of Children in Street Situations.

## 2005

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- The Arab Project to Protect Children in Street Situations in 5 Arab Countries (Sudan - Lebanon - Morocco - Yemen - Egypt).
- The Second Arab Civil Society Forum for Children, and selecting ACCD to be the coordinator for the Forum's activities.
- Issuing the first Encyclopedia of Arab Children's Magazines.
- The Arab Child Subject to Different Cultural Influences Conference.

## 2006

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- "Supportive Media to Disseminate the Culture of Child Rights and Combating Violence against Children" Project.
- Conducting two Studies on Child Law in Sudan and Lebanon, and proposing legal articles to ensure legal protection for the children in street situations, in accordance with the international and regional references.

## 2007

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- The Project of Arab Child Language in the Age of Globalization, and drafting the Arab Strategy for the Development of the Arab Child Language.
- Issuing a Training Manual for Media Professionals on Issues of Children in Street Situations, Drugs and AIDS.

## 2008

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- Discussing the Draft of the International Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children" Workshop, attended by Arab and international experts, and submitting its concluding observations, which represent the Arab perspective, to the International Committee on the Rights of the Child.
- Training Manual for Media Professionals on Protecting Children from Violence.

## 2009

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- The Project of "The Community's Duty towards the Child with Disability".

## 2010

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- The Project of "Media Observatory for the Arab Child Rights" in partnership with AGFUND and LAS.
- The Regional Study on the Role of Civil Society Organizations in Collecting and Using Data, which was launched during the activities of the Third Arab Civil Society Forum for Children.
- The Study on the Role of Civil Society in Activating the Arab Plan for Childhood, and organizing the Preparatory Civil Society Forum for the 4th High Level Arab Conference on Child Rights.
- The Inaugural Meeting of the Arab Children Forum.

## 2011

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- ACCD Strategic Plan (2011 – 2013).
- The Project of “Safe Environment for Protecting the Arab Children with Disabilities”.
- Launching National Forums for Children in Saudi Arabia, Lebanon and Egypt, within the framework of the Project of Arab Children Forum.
- Selecting ACCD as the Representative for the Middle East and North Africa Region in the NGO Advisory Council for Follow-up to the UN Study on Violence against Children. ACCD participated in the meetings of the NGO Advisory Council that were held in Geneva and New York.
- The Project of “Child Protection Policies in the Arab Countries”.

## 2012

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- Field Study on Children Participation in the Arab Countries, which was launched during the activities of the Fourth Arab Civil Society Forum for Children and the First Arab Children Forum.
- Launching the Children’s Parliament of Princess Salma Center for Childhood in Jordan, within the framework of “Child Culture Development” Project, as well as documenting and evaluating the project.

## 2013

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- UNICEF honoring for HRH Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, in appreciation of His Highness great efforts towards the children of the world.
- Launching the Study of Media and Addressing the Issues of Children’s Rights in Arab Countries, in the meetings of the Arab Childhood Committee held in Beirut.
- The Study on the Promotion of Community Participation in Education in Upper Egypt, in cooperation with UNICEF Egypt Country Office.

## 2014

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- ACCD Strategic Plan (2014 – 2016) on developing a New Model for Arab Child Upbringing “Education for Hope” under the slogan “New Mind for a New Human in a New Society”.
- The Project of Rehabilitation and Inclusion of Children in Street Situations in Egypt through Education for Hope under the slogan “I Have Chosen Hope”.
- “The Inclusion of Arab Children with Disabilities in Education and Society” Project.
- The First Arab Scout Forum for Young Media Professionals under the slogan “New Media Makers” in partnership with the Arab Scout Organization.

## 2015

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- Launching the Professional Guidelines for Arab Media Addressing Issues of Child Rights in Lebanon, under the auspices of the Lebanese Minister of Information, and the issuance of the Beirut Declaration.
- Guiding Manual for Drafting Child Rights Protection Policies.

## 2016

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- The Council of Arab Ministers of Social Affairs has adopted the Professional Guidelines for Arab Media Addressing Issues of Child Rights.
- Al-Ahram Foundation announces being a child friendly institution and committed to the Professional Guidelines.
- The Third Arab Scout Forum for Young Media Professionals under the slogan “New Media Makers” in partnership with the Arab Scout Organization.
- National Seminar on Child Labour and Sustainable Development Plans, held in Morocco, in partnership with the Arab Labour Organization.

## 2017

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- ACCD Strategic Plan (2017 – 2020) on Applying the ACCD Model for Arab Child Upbringing “Education for Hope”.
- The Project of “Upgrading Early Childhood Development Center in the Education City and Improving School Readiness”.
- Launching King Abdulaziz Prize for Scientific Researches in Childhood and Development, and announcing its first cycle on the issue of “Citizenship Education and Socialization”.
- The Council of Arab Ministers of Information has adopted the Professional Guidelines for Arab Media Addressing Issues of Child Rights.
- The Project of Assistive Technologies for the Inclusion of Children with Disabilities.

## 2018

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- The passing away of HRH Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, the Founder of ACCD, on the 22nd of December.
- Launching the ACCD Model for Arab Child Upbringing “Education for Hope” during the Fifth Arab Civil Society Forum for Children.
- The Project of “Empowerment of Arab Children in the Era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution” in 6 Arab countries, in partnership with AGFUND.

## 2019

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- HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud has assumed the presidency of the ACCD’s Board of Trustees, on the 7th of March.
- Honoring the name of HRH Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud by the Secretary General of LAS.
- Launching the Study on Child Labour in the Arab Countries, after its adoption by the Arab Economic and Social Development Summit.

## 2020

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- A Program to Address the Repercussions of COVID-19 Pandemic on Children through supporting projects in partnership with UNICEF and the UNHCR, launching a grant to support NGOs and an awareness campaign through seminars, workshops and social media.

## 2021

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- The Awards Ceremony of the Second Cycle of King Abdulaziz Prize for Scientific Researches on Childhood and Development, and Launching the Third Cycle on “Education in the Post-COVID-19 World”.

## 2022

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- Launching the Guidebook for Correcting Negative Expressions and Images Circulating around Children in the Arab Media.
- Signing a Cooperation Agreement with AGFUND to establish a regional center for training and developing the capacities of those concerned with childhood “ACTA Academy”, and launching the first training workshops in cooperation with the National Council for Family Affairs in Jordan.

2023

## ACCD's Role at the Arab and International Levels:

ACCD is honored to have been established on the initiative of an exceptional, pioneering human figure, who enjoys a global and regional reputation in the fields of development, which is reflected positively on ACCD's status at the Arab and international levels. Therefore, ACCD has gained credibility and confidence at the level of Arab governments, Arab and international organizations and civil society organizations.

Since its inception more than 35 years ago, ACCD has undertaken an active role at the Arab and international levels, and has broad partnerships through joint cooperation and coordination with government agencies, national mechanisms concerned with childhood, international and regional organizations and civil society.

## AGFUND is the Strategic Supporter of ACCD's Developmental Journey



AGFUND, founded by HRH the late Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and chaired by HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, is the strategic supporter of ACCD in achieving its development goals to promote the rights of the Arab child. ACCD has become the executive arm of AGFUND in the implementation of projects that target the advancement of the Arab children and the realization of their rights.





## First: ACCD's Role at the Arab Level:

### The League of Arab States:

- ACCD was established upon the recommendation of "Childhood and Development" Conference held by LAS in Tunisia in 1986. ACCD has a varied forms of cooperation with LAS; especially in coordinating an Arab position on the issues of the Arab child in international forums concerned with childhood. This cooperation was culminated in the signing of a joint Memorandum of Understanding between ACCD and LAS in 1993.
- ACCD has obtained a membership in the Arab Childhood Committee, affiliated to LAS, which includes the higher councils and national committees for childhood at the Arab level. This Committee undertakes the task of following up on the progress made at the level of childhood in the Arab countries.
- In 2008, ACCD has obtained the Observer Status in the Economic and Social Council of LAS.
- There is an ongoing partnership with LAS in preparing strategies and implementing many projects and activities for the advancement of Arab children and the promotion of their rights. Many of these projects' outputs have been approved by the Ministerial Councils of LAS.
- The Arab Childhood Committee, affiliated to LAS, has recommended the circulation of several pilot projects of ACCD.

ACCD has multiple partnerships with several higher councils and national mechanisms concerned with childhood and civil society organizations in the Arab countries, as many joint programs, projects and activities are being implemented.

## Second: ACCD's Role at the International Level:

Since its establishment, ACCD has played an active role in unifying the Arab attitude towards childhood issues at the international level, and has cooperated closely with international organizations such as UNICEF and the International Labour Organization, in coordination with LAS, in preparing documents that express Arab visions and submitting them in various international forums concerned with childhood. Such efforts have included the following:

- Drafting a Unified Arab Document for the Arab Child in coordination with LAS and submitting it at the World Summit for Children (United Nations, New York, 1990).

- Participating in the World Conference on Human Rights held in Vienna in June 1993; as ACCD took the initiative to send 17 children (boys and girls) from different Arab countries to participate in the Children's Conference accompanying this World Conference. The participating Arab children played a distinguished role in presenting their opinions and ideas that reflect the issues and problems of Arab childhood.
- Participating in the World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995. In order to prepare for its participation in this Conference, ACCD held a Workshop to discuss the status of the Arab girl and drafted a Study entitled "The Status of the Arab Girl".
- Unifying the Arab civil effort participating in the United Nations Special Session on Children (New York – May 2002), and organizing the First Arab Regional Forum for Civil Society Forum on Childhood in Morocco in 2001, as a preparatory step for the participation in this Special Session.
- ACCD played a pivotal role in the United Nations Secretary-General's Study on Violence against Children (UNVAC) issued in 2006, through its membership in the Regional Steering Committee for the Middle East and North Africa Region. ACCD assumed the responsibility of coordinating with the higher councils and national committees for childhood in the Arab countries and following up on governments filling out the questionnaire on violence against children. ACCD actively participated in the Regional Consultative Meetings on violence against children that were held in the framework of preparing the UNVAC Study, by coordinating the efforts of civil society.
- As a result of its efforts in this field, ACCD was selected as the Representative of the Middle East and North Africa Region in the International NGO Advisory Council for Follow-up to the UN Study on Violence against Children. ACCD participated in the meetings held in New York on October 11 – 15, 2010, as well as in the meetings held in Geneva in March 2011.
- ACCD works on advocating for the international efforts to combat violence against children at the Arab level, throughout the cooperation with the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (SRSG-VAC), and organizing a number of meetings attended by the children, intellectuals, representatives of higher councils and national committees for childhood and civil society organizations, along with partnership with the SRSG-VAC in a number of campaigns and activities.
- In 2008, ACCD organized an Arab Workshop on "Discussing the Draft of the International Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children", in cooperation with LAS. The concluding observations of the Workshop, which represent the Arab perspective, were submitted to the International Committee on the Rights of the Child, to be taken into consideration in the final draft of the Guidelines.
- ACCD celebrates the World Children's Day on November 20, by organizing events, activities and workshops with the children, aiming at realizing child rights. In addition, ACCD lights up its headquarters in blue; in order to promote international togetherness and spread awareness among children worldwide.
- ACCD advocates for the international campaigns on women's issues, as an inseparable part of childhood issues. On October 18, 2021, ACCD lit up its headquarters in pink on the occasion of the Breast Cancer Awareness Month.





**Towards a better  
future for the  
Arab child ..**