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Arab Council
for the Social Sciences
Conseil Arabe
pour les Sciences Sociales

ANNUAL REPORT

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I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- Organization Name: Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS)
- Date of report: March 1, 2023
- Reporting Period: January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2022
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- Some acronyms used in the report:
    - ACSS: Arab Council for the Social Sciences
    - A&F: BoT Administration and Finance Sub-committee
    - AMEWS: Association for Middle East Women's Studies
    - AUB: American University of Beirut
    - AUC: American University in Cairo
    - ASSM: Arab Social Science Monitor
    - ASSR: Arab Social Science Report
    - BoT: Board of Trustees
    - CCNY: Carnegie Corporation of New York
    - CLG: Company Limited by Guarantee
    - CoP: Critiques of Power
    - CPC: Country Program Coordinator
    - CSS: Critical Security Studies
    - CREAD: Center of Research for Applied Economics
    - ECFP: Early Career Fellows Program
    - EKWG: Ethnography and Knowledge Working Group
    - ERF: Economic Research Forum
    - F&A: Finance and Administration
    - FPOS: Foundation to Promote Open Society (a member of Open Society Foundations – OSF)
    - GAWG: Gendering the Archive Working Group
    - GMS: Grants Management System
    - GOHA: Gender Oral History Archive
    - IDRC: International Development Research Centre
    - IFA: Institute of Financial Analysts
    - IFDO: International Federation of Data Organizations
    - IAP: InterAsia Partnership (IAP)

- ISC: International Science Council
- IRS: Internal Revenue Service
- LAU: Lebanese American University
- LPR: Lead Project Researcher
- LU: Lebanese University
- LoA: Letter of Agreement
- MoU: Memorandum of Understanding
- MPK: Mapping the Production of Knowledge
- NewGen: New Generation of Social Scientists in the Arab Region
- NPF: New Paradigms Factory
- OSF: Open Society Foundations
- PD: Professional Development
- RBM: Results Based Management
- RGP : Research Grants Program
- RAP: Research on the Arts Program
- Sida: Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
- SGP: Small Grants Program
- SME: Subject Matter Experts
- BSCSS: Beirut School for Critical Security Studies
- ToC: Table of Contents
- ToR: Terms of Reference
- WHR: World Humanities Report
- WDS: World Data System

II. PROJECT ENVIRONMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL STRATEGY

For several countries in the Arab region, 2022 was a year of continued political unrest, turmoil and instability. In a number of countries, banking and economic crisis as well as currency devaluations not only contributed to the impoverishment of populations and to visible deterioration in standards of living and quality of life, but also raised questions about the unsustainable development models that governments in the Arab region have been championing, while regimes continue to consolidate their powers, and impose restrictions on public space, freedom of expression and academic freedoms.

Within this context, the ACSS formulated its strategy of work for the next eight years to take into account the politically and economically fragile regional situation on one hand, and the need to sustain the ACSS as an organization able to weather and navigate crisis on the other. We also reflected in the strategy our aspirations for the ACSS to grow as a stable and secure institution, able to play the role of an anchor that supports scholars and researchers in these challenging times. As elaborated below, we finalized our Strategy 2030 in 2022 and it was approved by the BoT in their January 2023 meeting.

In 2022, the ACSS efforts to hedge against the banking and financial crisis in Lebanon and ensure financial sustainability have finally yielded fruit. After we received the official Jordanian approval for an organizational branch in December 2021, the ACSS set up a new Arab Bank account in Amman in 2022. In addition, we also received the charter and registration documents and approval for a 501c3 status for a non-profit organization in Delaware, the U.S. under the name of North American Arab Council for the Social Sciences (NAACSS) and a new Citibank account was set up to receive grants such as an incoming grant from Carnegie Corporation. We have already started diverting grant funds to our bank in Jordan.

On the administrative/financial side, 2022 was a very challenging year. First, grant funds that were deposited in Lebanese banks before 2019 and belonged to different donor organizations such as Ford, IDRC, OSF and Carnegie Corporation, continued to be inaccessible to the ACSS and could not be used to cover the cash demands of our programs and operations. These were labelled “blocked funds”. Second, three of our young staff members resigned from the ACSS to pursue life and career aspirations in other countries. Their loss was aggravated by the difficulty in replacing them due to budget constraints and job market limitations. Thirdly, five of the major donor grants to the ACSS came to an end in 2022. Although expected, this has resulted in a gap period which we used to negotiate the renewal of some of these grants and/or secure new grants which we succeeded in doing towards the end of 2022 (see “Funding” below).

In addition to renewing and securing new grants, we were able, during the course of the year, to resolve the conundrum of the blocked funds with our relevant donor organizations. Each of these organizations had a different decision on how we should report the funds that had been deemed inaccessible. For example, OSF asked us to report the money as "lost funds"; Ford Foundation said we could 'commit' the funds for use in the future should the problem be resolved and the funds become accessible; Carnegie asked us to add these expenses onto indirect costs, which they approved at a higher rate than usual as a one-time increase. Also, as mentioned earlier, we negotiated the renewal of some grants and approached donors for new grants which helped in putting us back on the right track. We continue to use the 'fresh funds' received after 2019 to make payments to grantees and our community of researchers without problems or major delays.

In the following sections we review the progress we made on the institutional and programmatic fronts in 2022, address the challenges we faced in each program as well as the measures we adopted in the face of surrounding events and changes.

A. Developing Strategic Directions in Uncertain Times

The work of the ACSS has always been guided by strategies approved by the BoT. This mode of operation was also interrupted by the crises of the previous years. The ACSS had been following and meeting the targets of its 5-year strategy (2016-2020) successfully but the year 2020 was disrupted by the Covid 19 pandemic as well as political unrest and financial disruptions.

Therefore, in fall 2020, the ACSS Board of Trustees decided to develop an interim two-year strategy to act as a bridge between the previous five-year strategy (2016-2020) and a forthcoming eight-year strategy (2023-2030). This formulation was adopted by the Board of Trustees given the upheaval and uncertainties of the times, which made it impractical to set firm targets and goals. Instead, the interim strategy was a framework to help the ACSS navigate both the immediate crises and also plan for incorporating the needed agility and flexibility into its long-term planning.

The interim strategy was built around two axes of reflection and planning:

i. Articulating and enhancing what we do best:
   - Model of governance for regional organizations (leadership, accountability, responsiveness)
   - Institutional culture (flexibility, nimbleness, innovation)
   - Program development (establishing thematic priorities, new modalities, new constituents)

- Program management (committee structure, consultation, support to researchers)
- Convening, dissemination, publication (networking, diverse outlets, multilingualism, outreach to different audiences)

ii. Identifying new operational and programmatic tracks for institutional adaptation in the light of new conditions in order to reduce and manage uncertainty for the institution and for grantees, research affiliates and partners:

- Institutional Strengthening and Governance
- Financial Sustainability
- New Modalities and Mechanisms
- Institutional Alliances and Networks

Both internal and external discussions helped clarified the ideas, options and best practices that ACSS needed to incorporate into its 2030 Strategy. These included:

- BoT discussions in January 2022 and June 2022 evaluated the progress of the interim strategy as well as identifying the long-term goals.
- BoT sub-committees on *Administration and Finance,* on *Membership*, on *Publications* and on *Academic Freedom* all discussed specific targets and goals within the scope of their responsibilities.
- Internal discussions and learning through staff meetings evaluated current performance and generated visions for the long-term.
- Discussions through individual or small-group meetings with current ACSS donors and with sister institutions as well as through the annual Partners and Donors meeting on June 23, 2021 helped clarify possibilities as well as aspirations.

Through this process, the ACSS 2030 strategy was developed and finalized by end of 2022 and approved formally by the BoT in their meeting on January 24, 2023 (see Appendix 1- the full ACSS strategy).

The 2030 Strategy guides the second decade of ACSS operations and growth. The original road map from 2009 and the five-year strategy of 2016-2020 helped the institution establish its niche, main functions and signature activities. Those established the ACSS as a leading institution, with the required institutional capacity and financial sustainability for supporting and promoting research for social change, through grant making, assessment of the social science landscape, institutional partnerships and active communications activities. However, starting with 2020, the region and the ACSS home base in Lebanon has been rocked by instability and financial precarity. This required a phase of consolidation and shoring up organizational sustainability, which was addressed by the Interim Strategy 2021-2022.

The Strategy is a dynamic document that will be periodically reviewed and revised and is currently accompanied by a four-year budget. Both the narrative and financial planning will be thoroughly discussed and revised by the BoT every two years. The first two years of Strategy 2030 is characterized by some caution as we continue to work on the financial and administrative changes necessary to meet the challenges of these times and to bring back the funding base of the ACSS to pre-2020 levels. At the same time groundwork will be laid in these two years for programmatic and substantive growth and diversification. We are optimistic that in 2025-6, ACSS will mark its 15th anniversary with successful and demonstrable impact on the production of new knowledge, the growth of a new generation of social scientists as well as the promotion of research for social transformation in the Arab region.

B. Results Based Management (RBM)

Overall and Specific Objectives and Logframe

Since 2012, the ACSS has been implementing a Results Based Management (RBM) approach and developed a Logframe to monitor and measure projects and activities in terms of how they meet the overall and specific objectives of the institution (Appendix 2 – RBM Logframe).

Overall Objective

To identify and address the needs of social science communities in the Arab region, increase production of high-quality social science and humanities research as well as engage in regional, cross-regional and global collaborations and networking.

Specific Objectives

1. To improve and expand production and uptake of social science research to address regional issues;
2. To empower a new generation of social scientists integrated into regional and global networks;
3. To achieve institutionalization of ACSS as a credible recognized network of researchers and research institutions.

In addition to internally documenting and monitoring activities, as of 2015, the ACSS has been conducting an annual survey of grantees that requests updates on outputs and publications and solicits their opinions on their experience with the ACSS. The annual survey has been developed for gathering data for the Logframe and is considered an important input for planning and monitoring institutional growth and programmatic activities. The 2022 survey was sent out on January 10, 2022 and elicited a 23% response.

Overall, the results displayed in the Logframe were satisfactory.

The Logframe reflected the following increases compared to 2021:

- Increase in individual membership: (13% increase from previous year)
- Newly opened Instagram account followers on the rise (518 followers in a few months of activity)
- Maintaining gender balance in applications to grants and conference
- Increase in the number of research projects completed on time (30% from previous year)
- Increase in number of social science courses developed: New Generation online courses increased from two to five courses

III. ACTIVITIES AND DEVELOPMENTS IN 2022

A. Institutional Development

Funding for developing institutional capacities is spread across all ACSS grants through both direct and indirect support budget lines. Core funding from Sida and Ford has been essential for this component.

Board of Trustees

The 2021-2023 BoT met virtually via Zoom on January 26 and 31, 2022. As usual in the January meeting, the BoT reviewed and ratified the finances of the previous year (2021) and approval of the upcoming year's (2022) budget. The BoT also discussed the final version of the interim strategy along with the new themes for ACSS Sixth Conference and the Research Grants Program (RGP). The BoT meeting was also preceded by the four BoT sub-committee meetings: Membership, Administration and Finance, Publications and Academic Freedom, Rights and Societal Responsibility.

On June 24 & 25, 2022 the BoT met in-person in Crowne Plaza Hotel in Beirut in conjunction with the Fourth Research Forum which was attended by grantees and fellows and also members of selection committees and BoT as well as representatives of donor organizations. The first BoT session included an update from the Director General, Dr. Seteney Shami, about ACSS administrative issues and establishing a new branch in Jordan. This was followed by a discussion with Ms. Saba Mubaslat (Regional Director at Ford Foundation in Cairo) and Dr. Lisa Roman (Research Advisor at Sida) on their organizations' vision for the social sciences. The BoT sub-committees presented their reports, followed by an update on preparations for the Sixth

Conference and a discussion on the name of the person to be honored in the New Annual Lecture Series.

Administrative and Financial Systems and Processes

Database and Information Systems:

As indicated in the previous report, the ACSS started the process of harmonizing ACSS information systems on major: the website, the central database system and the GMS. ACSS is now using Good Grants as a Grants Management System (GMS) and all the application forms are now built on the platform including: grants, membership, NewGen program and surveys.

To help achieve the synchronization between our central data base (Salesforce), the GMS and WordPress (content management system), ACSS is collaborating with EI Technologies MENA (Salesforce official partner), that will be responsible for mapping and creating the custom fields between the different platforms, and importing the legacy data into the database.

The first phase of the Salesforce project is now completed. Each application field on the Good Grants GMS is mapped accordingly and synced into the central database. The second phase is underway which is importing the legacy data including: the old Grants Management System, old applications built on Form Assembly and all the data from Google Forms.

The revamping of the ACSS website is well under way. The final look is ready and content is being uploaded to the website. As described in the earlier report, the synchronization will be done with Salesforce and the database will be feeding the website with info about the grantees, members, etc. In addition, a new website www.naacss.org has been developed for the ACSS branch in the USA that would help ACSS reach out to more funders and stakeholders.

At the level of the management information system, ACSS will be migrating to the new Microsoft Dynamics system in 2023 for accounting and financial reporting, with the plan to explore it integration with the rest of the ACSS's operations and databases.

The ACSS IT Officer will be responsible for managing, configuring and maintaining all these platforms after their successful implementation.

Finally, in 2022 the ACSS installed its own independent generator and UPS system to ensure the good functioning of the IT infrastructure, servers and network, without interruption due to power outage. Before that, we were relying on the office building's shared generator which was not adequate for our needs as an office requiring (for example, generator was turned off at 5pm).

Staffing and consultants

New staff members joined the ACSS in 2022:

Jamil Bazzi, started on February 14, 2022, as full-time Program Assistant.

As we welcomed Jamil as a new staff member, we said good-bye to two staff members who served the ACSS with dedication for many years. These are:

Ms. Khadija Farah El Souri, left her role as a full-time Senior Grants Officer, having joined the ACSS in December, 2014;

Ms. Hiba Hammoud, left her role as full-time Events and Administration Coordinator, but will continue to serve the ACSS under a consultancy agreement until end of June 2023.

By end of 2022, the office included 19 employees as follows: 15 Lebanese, one Egyptian, one Jordanian, and two Bangladeshis, out of whom 12 are females and seven are males.

In addition to the Beirut-based staff and the ACSS focal points in Palestine and Algeria who work on a part-time basis, the ACSS continued to rely on part-time consultants for programmatic work, made necessary sometimes due to the absence of appropriate full-time staff or due to the specialized nature of the tasks. We appointed:

Dr. Hoda Elsadda - lead researcher for the Arab Oral History Archive: Gender, Alternative Histories, and the Production of Knowledge, (Gender Oral History Archive – GOHA)

Ms. Reem Joudi, research assistant for the Arab Oral History Archive: Gender, Alternative Histories, and the Production of Knowledge, (Gender Oral History Archive – GOHA)

Ms. Holly Danzeisen, programmatic consultant for the InterAsia Partnership

Dr. Lana Salman consultant for the ethics in social science research initiative

Dr. Maia Sieverding, consultant for the Arab Social Science Monitor (ASSM)

For the strategic planning component of the ACSS work that involves institutional consolidation and strengthening, we recruited the following consultants:

Grid International (Ms. Tania Khalaf), consultants for Human Resources

Ms. Hiba Hammoud, administrative and event management consultant

Al Nawa (Ms. Amany Alhadka) business, financial advisors, business and consulting services.

An Agile Work Environment

In 2022, as indicated above, two colleagues resigned in order to emigrate to Canada and Australia (Farah and Hiba respectively). We also started the year with an open position from the

year before – that of Jana Chammaa, Senior Officer responsible for the ACSS working groups. At the same time, new needs became apparent as the ACSS expanded its programmatic activities while simultaneously pursuing excellence and high-quality outputs and deliverables. Among those gaps, for example, was the obvious need for more rigorous monitoring and evaluation of our programs and activities. As expected, reconciling shortage in staff with our pursuit for excellence and at the same time, budgetary deficit has been a challenge facing the ACSS.

To deal with that, Ms. Tania Khalaf, ACSS HR consultant undertook a functional analysis exercise which resulted in a functional reallocation of tasks among current staff, leading to some role enlargement that impacted eight staff members. This step which sought to resolve ACSS pressing operational needs help it achieve institutional sustainability. This new 'agile' work environment is based on developing cross-functional work teams with fluid knowledge, know-how and skills, at the core of its functioning. We started towards the end of 2022 to put in place the building blocs for this agile model and are expected to consolidate it during the course of 2023.

Staff Professional Development (PD)

As part of its mission of academic and knowledge enhancement in the region, ACSS is invested in the professional development of its staff and encourages them to use the generous funding available for further education and enrichment of staff competence.

Funding is not restricted to programs and trainings related to the ACSS work requirements or mission, but is in fact open to the preferences of the staff member. Staff who make use of the PD opportunities are allowed to take 20 days off during the year to pursue their studies.

In 2022 several staff members enrolled in educational and training programs as follows:

- ACSS covered the Project Design Monitoring and Evaluation, certification course for Lubna Maaliki, which enables her to lead the Monitoring and Evaluation works of the Council;
- As part of her professional development plan, we have covered the membership fees for Nada Chaya, ASSM Project Leader, with the Population Association of America and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, as well as an online course for "Executive Data Science Specialization" at Johns Hopkins University through Coursera, and participation to the yearly International Data Week conference (virtual attendance), co-organized by ISC's Committee on Data, World Data Systems and Research Data Alliance;
- Rebecca Daher, Senior Program Assistant, enrolled with the Institute for Financial Analysts (IFA) for her Certified Financial Analyst- Level 2 certification course.

- Farah Al Souri, Senior Grants Officer, pursued her French language courses, until the month of May, at Berlitz.

Office Green Committee

As an office-based organization, we recognize we have an impact on the environment in terms of paper use, and energy and water consumption among others and we strive to minimize any adverse impact that our activities may have through better resource use and management and monitoring. This includes initiatives such as a recycling program, energy conservation efforts, and promoting sustainable practices among employees.

A few years ago, the green committee at the ACSS was able to instill recycling bins with signage for proper sorting and recycling to make the program a success. Colleagues have been supportive and exerted concerted efforts to properly separate their waste. We are also implementing green procurement policies and purchasing products made from sustainable materials can positively impact the environment. Employees are encouraged to use recyclable cutlery or mugs and sustainable utensils, as well as printing less to help reduce the carbon footprint of the organization. To dispose of the its waste, the ACSS is resorting to the company Live Love Recycle pick-up services in return for a symbolic donation on a monthly basis.

Focal Points

To ensure more robust regional outreach and networking, the ACSS decided to establish focal points in different countries. The structure of the focal point comprises:

- An agreement with a local NGO for administrative and financial support;
- A consultancy agreement with a senior researcher to oversee functions of the focal point on a part time basis;
- A small advisory committee of 4-5 prominent researchers serving on a voluntary basis.

The basic role of the focal point is to disseminate funding opportunities and assist potential applicants in applying to them; receiving financial reports and receipts from grantees and disbursing payments (when and if required especially where there are banking restrictions in place) to local ACSS grantees; the planning of training and networking events; providing feedback to ACSS secretariat and Board of Trustees on local/national thematic and programmatic priorities. At the moment, the ACSS has two focal points in Palestine and Algeria.

Palestine Focal Point:

The Year 2022 witnessed the return of some normalcy to Palestinian universities and schools after the Covid 19 pandemic, despite the strikes in some universities due to increased tuition and demands for improved salaries and wages. Moreover, Israeli occupation authorities imposed Israeli curriculum on Palestinian schools in Jerusalem, which led to strikes and protests by school administrations, parents and students and affected school attendance in the city. Israel also imposed new restrictions to prevent foreign students and academics from studying and working in Palestinian universities, substantially reducing the number of permits granted to the latter.

Book on "Social Engineering of the Colony":

The focal point finalized several chapters in the publication entitled "Social Engineering of the Colony".

The book addresses how the Zionist colonial power dismantled developmental, administrative, legal and security projects in Palestine, which not only stalled the achievement of national developmental programs, but also changed the nature and character of Palestinian society. This book also discusses how social engineering was carried out by colonial powers and impacted social formations and various economic sectors.

Also, the study of the "Impact of the Pandemic on Higher Education" was completed in 2022. Interviews and focus groups were conducted with students, and academic staff in four Palestinian universities (three universities in the West Bank and one in the Gaza Strip). Discussions revolved around the effects of the pandemic on the quality of education, freedom of expression and administrative and legal procedures.

Moreover, a series of meetings were held with high school students on the importance of social sciences. Seven such meetings were held in schools in several governorates in the West Bank, from December 2021 to April 2022. Palestinian social scientists presented the disciplines of sociology, history and economics to the students and explained the importance of social sciences in understanding societies and solving social problems.

Also, Palestine focal point organized a study day on July 30, 2022 entitled "Critical Knowledge that Transcends Hegemony and Colonialism in Palestine". The aim of this event was to activate research in the social sciences, and build a network of social science researchers. ACSS grantees and fellows working in and on Palestine were invited to present their projects and also familiarize themselves with the work and activities of the focal point in Palestine.

Algeria Focal Point:

The Algeria Focal point operated under difficult circumstances in the aftermath of the Covid 19 pandemic, exacerbated by political instability. Thus, many of the focal point plans were put off. However, discussions took place between Dr. Nacer Djabi who heads the ACSS focal point in Algeria and the ACSS Director General Dr. Seteney Shami on planned activities for 2023. Those will include: monthly on-line webinars from January to April on anthropology in Algeria to be presented to PhD. students. The webinars would be followed in the fall of 2023 by a closed seminar for a select number of PhD. students for more intensive work on the subject. The second planned activity are two webinars on ethics of social science research in Algerian universities to be organized in collaboration with CREAD (Center of Research for Applied Economics) and the University of Qlai'a near the capital of Algiers, and attended by professors and PhD students. The plan is for these two events to result in the formation of a working group on research ethics in Algeria.

Membership

In 2022, the ACSS witnessed a noticeable increase in the number of membership applications: 70 applications vs. 40 in 2021. We assume that the resumption of the travel grants in July 20, 2022 and the gradual resumption of academic activities in the aftermath of COVID-19 could be the reasons behind that increase.

By December 2022, ACSS members represented the following categories: 103 active (voting) members; 1023 associate (non-voting) members, 100 students (non-voting members) and 11 institutional members. In their December 2022 meeting, the Membership Committee recommended adding an institutional grant incentive for the institutional members who may apply for funding to strengthen their institutions through activities such as development of the website, workshops, staff training, publications, etc...

In July 2022, members' travel grants program was resumed after an interruption - mainly due to Covid – of three years. ACSS members (including student members) may now apply for travel grants to attend professional social science conferences of up to $3000. Scholars are eligible for one conference travel grant every two years. For eligibility, applicants must be an ACSS member, in good academic standing (for students) and accepted for presenting a paper at an academic conference. The deadline for submitting applications in the first cycle was end of August 2022.

Four applications were received and reviewed by the BoT membership subcommittee. Three applications were accepted from Iraq, Algeria and Morocco. In October 2022, the second travel

grants cycle was launched. The deadline for submitting applications was end of November 2022. Ten applications were received and reviewed by the BoT membership subcommittee. Six applications got accepted from Sudan, Morocco, Syria, Egypt and Yemen. In December 2022, the third travel grants cycle was launched. The deadline for submitting applications will be end of February 2023.

In September and November 2022, two meetings were held with ACSS members in Iraq and Sudan respectively where ACSS is not well represented. The meetings included an overview of ACSS membership categories, the upcoming BoT elections in March 2023 as well as an open discussion on current and possible ACSS activities to enhance ACSS role in both Iraq and Sudan.

It was also agreed by the membership subcommittee following their last meeting in December 2022 to organize three meetings in 2023 for members in Mauritania, Oman and Libya.

Funding

For current and future projects, the ACSS was able to secure grants from the following funders in 2022:

- International Development Research Center – CAD 732,300 – to support the project "Safeguarding Knowledge Production: Supporting the Arab Council for the Social Sciences" for the period September 1, 2022 – August 31, 2024.
- The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency - SEK 7,150,000 - as core support to the "Core Activities and the Supplement 2018-2022" for the period January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022.
- University of North Carolina - $71,885 - to support the project "Arab Social Science Data Archive" for the period January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022.
- Carnegie Corporation of New York - $1,500,000 - to support the project "Knowledge, Publics and Crisis in the Arab Region" for the period October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2024.

B. Convenings

Funding for these activities are drawn from the Sida grant, with grantees' participation expenses covered by their respective programs, including Sida, IDRC and Carnegie Corporation of New York

The ACSS organizes a biennial Conference and a biennial Research Forum on alternate years in addition to other public events.

Fourth Research Forum

The Arab Council for the Social Sciences organizes a research forum for its grantees and fellows once every two years. The Research Forum is a closed event for grantees and fellows only, that is held rotationally in countries of the Arab region. In the past years, the ACSS organized research forums in Tunisia (2014), Algeria (2016), and Jordan (2018). Bringing together ACSS grantees, fellows, trustees and selection committee members, the Research Forum is an opportunity for grantees/fellows to present, discuss, and receive feedback on their ongoing research, get to know other researchers in the region, thicken their networks and create new networks. It is also an intensive learning experience for general academic issues such as research methodologies, writing and publishing, research ethics, career opportunities and so on.

In 2020, the ACSS cancelled its fourth research forum which was scheduled to take place in April in Tunisia, due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. As the pandemic situation eased off and more people got vaccinated, we decided to organize the Research Forum in Beirut on June 20-24, 2022 (Appendix 3-Fourth Research Forum Program). We invited a large number of grantees and fellows from the last three cycles as well as current cycles of all programs: FMSH cycle 4, RAP cycles 2-4, ECFP cycles 6-8, SGP-IED cycle 1, NPF cycle 4, and RGP cycles 6-8. The Research Forum was attended by BoT members, partners, donors and selection committee members who acted as chairs and moderators of the various panels and roundtables. More than one hundred participants attended the Forum: 73 grantees/fellows, 15 selection committee members, and 12 donors/partners/BoT.

We had a total of 59 projects presented in 29 panels as well as three roundtables. The first roundtable titled “Research Ethics in the Social Sciences in Turbulent Times” was held on June 21, 2022. Grantees, collaborators/colleagues from sister organizations and scholars from the Arab region presented different perspectives on the question of ethics and shared as well the progress they have made thinking about their ethical dilemmas in their own research.

The second roundtable on “Health Policies and Social Science Research on Health in the Arab Region” was held on June 22, 2022. Participants were invited to consider the realities and futures of health policies and the relationships between social scientific research on health and health policies in the Arab Region.

The third roundtable titled: “How can you be part of the ACSS?” was held on June 23, 2022. The aim of this session was to inform grantees and fellows of how they can continue to be part of the ACSS network and different ways that the ACSS can continue to support them. The session

included brief presentations about different units and structures within the ACSS, such as Membership, Code of Ethics and Conduct, and Communications and Publications. It also included presentations from different ACSS programs such as the Arab Social Sciences Monitor (ASSM) and the New Generation of Social Scientists in the Arab Region (NewGen).

Furthermore, the Grants and Fellowships Unit in partnership with the Arab Fund for Arts and Culture, organized an exhibition displaying artistic material from selected projects from cycles 2, 3 and 4 funded by the Research on the Arts Program (RAP).

At the end of the third day, participants had the chance to participate in the Association for Middle East Women's Studies (AMEWS)/ACSS joint reception on the occasion of AMEWS conference and ACSS 4th Research Forum.[1]

After the Research Forum, a questionnaire was sent to grantees and fellows asking them to evaluate the event. According to the responses,72% gave the Research Forum with 5 stars and 28% 4 stars.

Preparations for Sixth ACSS Conference

The Arab Council for the Social Sciences' Sixth conference, titled "Producing Critical Knowledge in the Arab Region" will be held in Beirut, Lebanon on May 25-28, 2023.

This biennial event is open to participants from all social science and allied disciplines and to scholars from the Arab region and the rest of the world and will be organized around four sub themes.

1. Legacies of Critical Knowledge(s)
2. Dismantling Colonialist Epistemological Structures
3. Memories and Popular Culture
4. Locations of Thought Production

Since we announced the call for applications in September 2022, we received over 420 applications for both individual and organized panels from across the world, compared to 248 for the Fourth Conference in April 2019 and 209 for the Fifth Conference in December 2021.

[1]AMEWS is an organization of scholars and individuals with an interest in women and gender studies in the context of the Middle East/North Africa and beyond, including transnational and diasporic communities in Europe as well as North and South America. AMEWS is affiliated with the Middle East Studies Association of North America, Inc. and works with academic networks around the world. Membership in AMEWS is open to anyone with an interest in Middle East/Muslim women and gender studies. AMEWs produces a triennial publication, the Journal of Middle East Women's Studies (JMEWS), published by Duke University Press, which advances the fields of women's and gender studies through contributions across disciplines in the social sciences, humanities and other fields.

This shows the increased international and regional interest in and awareness of ACSS activities and events. Due to the large number of participants, we have decided to add an additional fourth day as our conferences usually run over three days only. Eight roundtables will be included that showcase ACSS programs or collaborations. Other activities will include a book exhibit from regional publishers, workshops organized by partner organizations, a "Meet the Author" session, poster sessions as well as a meeting of the ACSS General Assembly.

For more information, please visit the conference page on our website: http://www.theacss.org/pages/sixth-conference-2023

The ACSS Annual Lecture Series

In 2015 the ACSS inaugurated its Annual Lecture event. Each series of four lectures is named after a prominent Arab social scientist. The Annual Lecture celebrates prominent social scientists from the Arab region and encourages research along the paradigms and perspectives that they developed. The first series was named after the Palestinian political scientist and historian, Dr. Hanna Batatu. The second series celebrates the Moroccan sociologist and activist, Fatema Mernissi.

Fatema Mernissi Annual Lecture Series:

In 2019 ACSS inaugurated the Fatema Mernissi Lecture Series in Beirut. The first lecture was presented by Dr. Asmae Benadada (Professor at the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah, Morocco). In 2020, the second lecture by Dr. Omaima Abou-Bakr, (professor of English and Comparative Literature at Cairo University) was held on Zoom. In 2021, the third lecture by Dr. Zeina Zaatari (Director of the Arab American Cultural Center and adjunct faculty in Anthropology at the University of Illinois at Chicago) was also held on Zoom.

A short video, produced by the ACSS about the life and the legacy of Fatema Mernissi, was also shown (Please see https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7eyxkSYhPhM)

A booklet on all three lectures, including abstracts and bios of the speakers, was produced and distributed during the event.

In 2022 we started preparations for the closing lecture which will be held as a special plenary panel concluding the ACSS Sixth conference on May 28, 2023. In this panel, Dr. Benadada, Dr.

Abou-Bakr and Dr. Zaatari will present a summary of their lectures and interact with in-person and virtual audience.

Lessons learned

Last year marked our gradual return to normalcy in organizing face to face convenings. After its cancelation in 2020 due to the pandemic, we were finally able to organize the Fourth Research Forum with the physical presence of all participants in Beirut, a step that was met with great appreciation and enthusiasm by our community of grantees and fellows and to our gratification, the attendance rate was quite high. At the same time, we have become fully cognizant of the opportunities made available to us by the new convening technology like Zoom which we heavily resorted to during the pandemic and have decided to continue to use it when appropriate. For example, we continue to organize some of our consultation meetings with members of committees as well as some workshops with grantees on Zoom.

Preparations for the Sixth Conference, underway, are also indicating a noticeably high interest in the conference as an ACSS flagship activity, both from within and outside the region. We are proud that the ACSS conference is now on the agenda of many of the international, regional and Global South academic institutions. The addition of a fourth day to the conference is an attempt on our part to meet the increasing demand on the organization of panels by sister national, regional and international organizations. As mentioned in last year's report, the format we applied last year of organizing the conference consecutively in a number of Arab cities was quite successful and is still a viable option that we can continue to enforce in the future.

C. Grants and Fellowships Programs

Funding for the ACSS grants and fellowships program are from Sida (RGP, ECFP and NPF); IDRC (RGP); Carnegie (ECFP); Mellon Foundation (RAP, RGP and ECFP), OSF (NPF) and IDRC (SGP).

Following is a review of the progress made in the core grants offered by the Grants and Fellowships Unit in 2022

Research Grants Program (RGP)

RGP is based on open call for proposals for research under a broad theme selected usually in consultation with the Board of Trustees. It provides funding and support for up to 18 months for individuals and teams and 24 months for collectives and institutions, and targets regional and diaspora researchers, senior and junior researchers post the PhD.

The RGP program is now in its 9th cycle. The theme for the first three cycles was "inequality, mobility and development"; the following three cycles carried the title "environmentalism, impoverishment and social justice movements: Interdisciplinary perspectives" and the third three cycles, which were launched in 2019 now address the theme of "health and livelihoods in the Arab region: wellbeing and vulnerability in conflict"

RGP is currently funded by IDRC and Sida

RGP Cycle 9:

The ninth cycle of the RGP under "health and livelihoods in the Arab region: wellbeing and vulnerability in conflict" was launched on August 15, 2021 (see announcement here). The deadline for applications' submission was November 23, 2021 and the selection meeting was scheduled for January 26 and 28, 2022. We received 50 applications distributed as follows: 25 Individuals, 18 Teams, six Institutions and one Collective. Of the 50 applications, the ACSS secretariat screened out 18 because they were either incomplete and/or ineligible. It is however important to remember that the secretariat shares with the selection committee all applications received and the latter has the right to bring any of them back into the pool if they did not agree with the decision of the secretariat. The selection committee reviewed 24 proposals: they ranked 50% of the applications highly; the other 50% were low ranked.

The selection/advisory committee convened on Zoom on January 26 and January 28, 2022 and reached the following decisions: four Awards, three Conditional Awards, nine Revise for the Future and 16 Rejects. The seven successful projects came from Algeria, Palestine, Lebanon and Morocco (Appendix 4: RGP cycle 9- names and topics of grantees)

Two of the grants were subsequently rescinded for different reasons. The principal investigator in the institutional grant to AUB had a major change in her residence status as she had to relocate to the US and could not therefore be in Lebanon to undertake grant activities. In the second case - the team grant to Bouchta Ziani and his colleagues - the grant had to be rescinded due to a major violation of the ACSS code of ethics as it was proven to us that the principal investigator was implicated in a case of sexual harassment in Morocco for which he had to serve prison sentence. In addition, he withheld from the ACSS critical information about his work status. After a thorough process of investigation involving the selection/advisory committee, Board of Trustees and our legal counsel, the decision to rescind the grant was reached and communicated to the principal investigator.

Moreover, in the previous cycle – cycle 8 -, 15% of the proposals (17 applications) reviewed by the selection committee had received a 'Revise and Resubmit' decision. Of those, 53% (9 applications) reapplied in cycle 9 and three of them received grants. This is an important

indicator of success as the revise and resubmit category is designed to encourage promising applicants who had good but insufficiently developed proposals to come back having taken into account the comprehensive comments that the committee provides them to improve their proposals. Unfortunately, since the ninth cycle was the last cycle in the program on health and livelihood, we could not use the revise and resubmit decisions as applicants would not be able to re-apply next year. Instead, we sent out 'revise for the future' letters that contained comments and advice from the selection committee to help the researchers improve their projects for submission to any other granting organizations. Such letters were sent to four individuals, three teams and two institutions.

By the end of the selection meeting, the committee issued a statement reflecting on the pool of applications and the decisions they have made.

Grantees' Workshops

The grantees' workshop for this cycle was scheduled to take place in conjunction with the ACSS Fourth Research Forum in June 2022 in Lebanon. However, due to the high number of participants (we invited grantees from RGP 6, 7 and 8) and budgetary restrictions, the workshop was held online via Zoom on April 27 and 28, 2022. First participants met in plenary to present their projects, followed by separate one-on-one meetings between each grantee and a member of the selection committee for one hour, to address the comments provided by the committee (either as recommendations or conditions).

On May 16 and 17, we organized a workshop on research ethics that was led by Dr. Jamil Mouawad - ACSS Consultant on Research Ethics. Before the workshop, grantees were asked to read the ACSS Research Ethics Guidelines and fill out a questionnaire on the ethical practices they would be adopting in the field and beyond. Following an introduction – in plenary - by ACSS associate director on the importance of research ethics in social science research and an explanation of the ACSS initiative in this regard and brief presentations by grantees of their projects, Dr. Mouawad gave an introductory session on the principles of research ethics. This was followed by one-on-one sessions with grantees on their specific ethical questions and approaches.

Grantees from the ninth cycle will participate in the Sixth ACSS conference that will be held in May 2023.

As the IDRC funding for the Health and Livelihoods theme has come to an end, we have decided to not launch a new call in 2022. Instead, we will use the year – 2023 – to evaluate the program and the contribution of the ACSS to the study of health from the perspectives of the social sciences. Our plan is to resume the program in 2024 under a new theme.

Early Career Fellows Program (ECFP)

The Postdoctoral Fellowship Program was launched in 2015 to enable young researchers, up to three years out of the PhD, to pursue their research and publishing plans, become part of Arab research networks, plan a research career in the Arab region and expand their opportunities in finding tenure in academic institutions in the region. In order to respond to existing needs and talents in the region, the program is open by theme as well as to all disciplines in the social sciences and humanities. Starting with cycle 5, the program was renamed the Early Career Fellows Program (ECFP) and the term of the fellowship was extended from 9 to 12 months.
ECFP is currently funded by CCNY

Cycle 9, 2022:

As mentioned in the earlier report, cycle 9 was launched on December 23, 2021 and closed on February 24, 2022. For this cycle we received 19 applications from five Arab countries. The selection committee composed of three members from Lebanon, Tunisia and Palestine met on May 12, 2022. The committee reviewed all applications and selected three fellows from Egypt, Palestine, and Morocco. Two fellows accepted the fellowships and one is still completing her paper requirements (Palestinian).

Selected fellows represented different disciplinary backgrounds in the social sciences including anthropology, sociology and political sciences (Appendix 5: ECFP9 Fellows and titles of their projects)

Fellows' Workshop

A virtual workshop was held on December 14, 2022 where fellows from cycles 8 and 9 were invited to attend in order to meet and present their projects to each other. In the second part of the workshop, the fellows participated in data management training (see data management workshops under ASSM above). The workshop was moderated by Dr. Samer Kherfi, member of the ECFP selection committee.

Fellows from this cycle will participate in the Sixth ACSS conference that will be held in May 2023.

The next cycle of the program will be announced in February 2023.

Small Grants Program (SGP)

The Small Grants Program (SGP) was initiated in November 2016. The first theme of the program was "Youth" and "Urban Spatial Inequalities" (based on the request of the Ford Foundation) and the main purpose of the program is to provide junior researchers in the region with access to flexible funding with a short turnover period. In 2021, the SGP adopted a new theme on "Research Ethics: Ethical Dilemmas in the Social Sciences". Three cycles on this theme will run between 2021 and 2023 and will be open to former ACSS grantees who are interested in unpacking an ethical conundrum they have encountered during fieldwork while conducting their ACSS funded project.

SGP on ethics is currently funded by IDRC.

SGP on Ethical Dilemmas in the Social Sciences Cycle 2, 2021:

We launched the call for the Cycle 2 November 19, 2021 and closed it on January 5, 2022. We received 18 applications from six Arab countries. The selection/advisory committee composed of three members (Appendix 6: Members of the selection/advisory committee) from Lebanon met on February 18, 2022 and selected one project from Morocco. The selected grantee – Mouloud Amghar - worked on his project titled "Paying back to the community: Researchers from academic to social responsibility" between March and September 2022 and participated in an online workshop with Dr. Lamia Moghnieh on September 8, 2022 who commented on his project, and methods. At the end of the grant, Dr. Amghar submitted a draft article and received extensive comments from members of the selection/advisory committee to enhance its quality and improved chances for publications.

The grantee from this cycle will participate in the Sixth ACSS conference that will be held in May 2023.

Over the course of 2022, we have been in conversation with IDRC, the donor organization supporting this program, to discuss its future. After two cycles of grants in support of research ethics, we have shared our observations with IDRC that despite a visible interest in this area, and intensive training to and mentorship of grantees, they are still unable to fully grasp the notion of an ethical dilemma, confusing it with other important but not identical concepts such as integrity, objectivity, positionality and morality. Moreover, despite their significance in introducing research ethics, the impact of the small grants remains the individual researchers and the grants do not necessarily have ripple effects on other critical actors such as students or the larger institutions. Thus, in consultation with IDRC, we have decided to experiment in the remaining period of the grant with training and grant-making to institutions in a select Arab

country. Our country of choice is Jordan, where we have a new branch office and our first training workshop on social science research ethics will take place in Jordan in the spring of 2023.

ACSS-FMSH Short-term Postdoctoral Mobility Program in the Social Sciences and Humanities

The short-term fellowship program is organized in partnership with the Fondation maison des sciences de l'homme (FMSH) in Paris, and is managed by both the ACSS and FMSH. The fellowship is short-term (2-3 months) and targets individual researchers who are residents and nationals of the Arab region. The recipients of this fellowship should have received their PhD degree within the past six years, and plan to conduct research in France (including field research, library and archival work, as well as other types of data collection). In addition to a monthly stipend of €1,600, the FMSH helps applicants in finding a host institution in France for their intended period of stay.

This program is funded by FMSH and Sida

Cycle 5, 2022

The call for Cycle 5 of the ACSS-FMSH Short-Term Postdoctoral Mobility Fellowship Program was announced on September 15, 2021 and closed on December 10, 2021. For this cycle we received 14 applications from four Arab countries. The selection committee composed of three members from Tunisia and France/Lebanon met virtually on February 2, 2022 to discuss and select fellows (Appendix 7: Members of selection committee). They selected four fellows from Tunisia, and Algeria, one of whom - Nora Gueliane - declined the fellowship (Appendix 8: Fellows - 2022).

Fellows from this cycle will participate in the Sixth ACSS conference that will be held in May 2023.

Cycle 6, 2023

The call for Cycle 6 of the ACSS-FMSH Short-Term Postdoctoral Mobility Fellowship Program was announced on September 19, 2022 and closed on December 9, 2022. For this cycle we received 21 applications from five Arab countries. The same committee as the previous cycle will meet virtually on February 8, 2023 to discuss and select fellows.

AFAC-ACSS Research on Arts (RAP)

In 2017, the ACSS and the Arab Fund for Arts and Culture (AFAC) agreed to partner on a collaborative research grants program for funding research on the arts. The program offers up to 18 months of funding to individuals, teams, collectives and institutions and encourages both academics and art practitioners to apply to the program.
RAP is funded by the Mellon Foundation

Workshop for Cycle 4 Grantees:

As mentioned in the earlier report, the selection committee selected five research projects, covering history of arts, music, graphic design and culinary arts. The five awarded projects (three individuals and two teams) came from Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Lebanon. The committee also issued a statement commenting on the pool.

The workshop for RAP 4 grantees was held on February 9 and 10, 2022 at Fabrika art space in Beirut Lebanon and included plenary as well as mentoring sessions. In the first part, grantees and selection committee members met each other and the former presented their projects, followed by an open discussion. On the second day, the awarded grantees met separately with two members of the selection committee to discuss their project methodology, and planned course of work and received feedback to refine their projects. The aim of this workshop was to create a sense of cohort and help grantees exchange their experiences and projects (Appendix 9: Agenda of workshop).

Working Group on "Research on the Arts"

As indicated before, AFAC and the ACSS decided to commission an evaluation of RAP as a pioneer experiment in researching the arts by academics, artists and cultural producers. The two organizations put together a working group from among members who served on the RAP selection committees, to investigate the relationship between arts and the social sciences based on a careful examination of the projects of grantees. The evaluation exercise, currently underway, will be followed by a series of publications on the state of the field, as well as ACSS contribution to developing it.

New Paradigms Factory on "Gendered Resistance"

One of the earliest programs established at ACSS, this fellowship aims at supporting writings by Arab junior scholars and activists to turn their research into publications for a larger audience. This takes place through a nine-month mentorship program at the end of which a publication including essays of grantees is published. The program targets holders of the MA degree in the Arab region who completed their fieldwork on the essay topic.
NPF is funded by OSF

Cycle 5, 2022:

On June 30, 2021 the ACSS announced Cycle 5 of the New Paradigm Factory Program under the title "Gendered Resistance: Ethical Practices in Oral Narratives". While the thematic focus, structure and topics of the program have all remained unchanged (with minor adjustments), we added to the program a significant methodological tinge by encouraging applications from individuals who have had experience with projects to combat gender-based discrimination and violence using oral history methodologies.

The initial deadline for submitting applications was August 16, 2021. As the number of applications received by the specified deadline was lower than our expectations, we extended the deadline to December 15, 2021 by which date the ACSS received 42 applications from eight Arab countries: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen. The mentors reviewed 15 applications (27 applications were disqualified because they were either ineligible and/or incomplete), and met virtually via Zoom on January 20, 2022 to discuss the remaining applications and decided to select 11 applicants for Cycle 5 of the NPF fellowship (Appendix 10: NPF fellows and titles of projects)

Workshops

The first workshop was held on March 28, 2022 to April 1st, 2022 at ACSS offices in Beirut, Lebanon. In the first session, fellows had the chance to present themselves and their projects to their peers and the four mentors. The following days included a series of sessions on: (i) Key theoretical concepts and frameworks on ethics that are relevant to the field of gender studies and the theme of Gendered Resistance (ii) research methods with focus on gender studies and oral history, and (iii) discussions of readings and unpacking keywords related to the theme. In one of the sessions Grants and Fellowships team at the ACSS went over the timeline of the program with the fellows, and discussed the general features and spirit of the forthcoming publication. It was also at this first workshop, that the Grants and Fellowships unit withdrew the fellowship of Wameedh Shakir (Yemen) after consultation with the mentors, due to her lack of commitment and consistent absence during the workshop. After the workshop, the ten fellows met with their mentors regularly twice every month from April to July 2022 – the date of the second workshop.

During regular on-line meetings mentors and fellows worked closely together to revise their draft articles, enhance their writing skills and ground their articles within rigorous conceptual and theoretical frameworks. As per the requirements of the program, fellows submitted a second draft of their articles on June 30, 2022. The revised drafts along with the commitment

and progress demonstrated by the fellow, were evaluated collectively by the mentors who decided during the second workshop on whom to include from among the fellows in the forthcoming publication. For fellows whose articles would not be included in the ACSS publication, the fellowship ended after the second workshop. Those who were not selected to complete the fellowship, still benefited from a four-month mentorship, two capacity building workshops, and a $1,500 fellowship award.

The second workshop took place virtually via zoom on July 21 and 22, 2022. Three panel sessions were organized for fellows to present the progress they have made on their articles, and articulate their methodology and targeted audience. Four guest speakers were invited to give lectures at the workshop. On the second day, Dr. Hanan Sabea (Associate Professor and advisor at The American University in Cairo) gave a lecture on research ethics and Dr. Nouzha Guessous (Professor at Hassan II University in Casablanca) shared “the experience of a feminist activist for the reform of the family law (Al Modawana) in Morocco”. On the fourth day, Mrs. Heba Al Haji and Mrs. Hebatallah Tolba who were previous fellows from Cycle 4, joined the current awardees, presented their projects and shared their personal experience in the program. All sessions were followed by discussions between speakers/lecturers and fellows. One-on-one sessions were also organized during the workshop between mentors and fellows after which the mentors informed fellows of whether or not they would be included in the publication. Three fellows: Hammoud Emjedel, Heba Salah, and Rabab Kamal were not qualified to proceed to the publication stage, leaving seven fellows to continue the program. Towards the end of the workshop, a session was organized so that fellows would meet with the ACSS Communications and Publications team and learn more about the steps involved in publishing their articles and the publication design. Since then, all seven selected fellows have been working extensively with their mentors to refine and finalize their articles.

The third workshop will be help in May 2023 during the Sixth ACSS Conference.

Publication

As is the practice at the ACSS that all articles are produced in Arabic to ensure inclusivity and accessibility to the largest base of audience and readers, we translated into Arabic the four articles that have been written in English. These articles are being copyedited by the ACSS publications team. The four mentors of the program also wrote the introduction to the publication.

After the evident success achieved by the dissemination campaign executed last year, we have decided to apply the same strategy for the wide dissemination of the upcoming publication. As we did last year, we hired photographers and filmmakers in each of the countries the fellows are residing in, we are currently working on producing a series of short interviews with each

fellow during which they present and discuss their topic. We will rely on social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) as the main dissemination tools to reach a wide audience across the Arab region and beyond. Second, fellows will be invited to present their articles in "meet the author" sessions at the ACSS Sixth Conference which will take place in May 2023.

With only some minor design changes and a different color, in choosing the cover of the forthcoming publication we have remained faithful to the visual identity of the NPF publication that we adopted earlier. Below is the cover of the final publication which will come out in January 2023 as well as a photo of the three NPF publications (Appendix 11: Covers of NPF publications).

Evaluation of the ACSS work on Environmentalism, Impoverishment and Social Justice Movements

Dr. Reem Saad, independent anthropologist, was commissioned to undertake an evaluation of the research grants program on the theme of "Environmentalism, impoverishment and social justice movements" that completed three cycles in 2018. Dr. Saad situated the grants and their outputs within the interdisciplinary field of environmentalism by shining a light on regional thematic interests and theoretical and methodological contributions to the field. She also examined contributions to the theme by other ACSS programs such as the ECFP program and papers presented at the different ACSS conferences on the environment. In addition to Dr. Saad's contribution, we have asked six grant recipients from the three cycles to provide case studies based on their projects that include methodological and theoretical innovations in the study of environmentalism in the Arab region. It is our plan to publish the results of Dr. Saad's work and the case studies as an ACSS Occasional Publication and use it for a larger debate on the theme of environmentalism in the region.

Lessons Learned and Next Steps:

Last year was critical to the development of the grants and fellowships programs. On one hand, we continued to successfully offer NPF program on gendered resistance and the ethics of oral histories as well as the ECFP for young recipients of the PhD degree, but on the other hand, we concluded our work on RGP on health and livelihood which came to an end after three successful cycles that brought to the fore many important research issues in different countries of the region. Our plan is to use 2023 to evaluate the program and gauge the RGP contribution to the field of social sciences and health, as we continue to receive the input of the BoT on the new theme and endeavor to raise funds for a new three-cycle RGP. In this context, and as mentioned in last year's report, we are following the good practice of taking stock of our programmatic achievements, challenges and strengths by evaluating our programs. As

indicated above, we are doing this with the RGP on environmentalism, the RGP on health and livelihoods and our collaborative RAP program with AFAC

In our eight-year strategy, we have indicated our plans to become the go-to resource in the region for ethics in social science research and are in fact seeking the best possible modalities that can be beneficial to our community of researchers and research institutions. This has meant learning from our experiment with small individual grants on research ethics and changing our course to giving institutional grants that would maximize benefits and ensure wider ripple effects to individual researchers. We are pleased that we will inaugurate our new branch office in Amman, Jordan by a training workshop on research ethics to Jordanian institutions.

It is unfortunate that our plans to launch the collaborative research program between the ACSS and CODESRIA on research on the Sahel have not materialized yet. In 2022 the two collaborating institutions revised again their budgets and timeline in preparation for the imminent start of the grant which did not happen due to unclarity of budgetary situation and programmatic priorities within Sida. We hope the situation will clear up in 2023 so we can launch this exciting South to South collaboration.

It is our plan to use 2023 to work together as a team (associate director, Grants and Fellowships coordinator and new consultant Joanne Boustany) towards enhancing the visibility of our programs and the creation of synergies between our different programmatic components.

D. A New Generation of Social Scientists in the Arab Region (2030) (NewGen)

In 2020 the ACSS officially launched a new and ambitious program entitled “A new generation of social scientists in the Arab region (2030) (NewGen)”. The fellowship provides a two-years rich multi component journey – including training, research and networking opportunities - for students at the BA, MA and Ph.D. levels - in select Arab universities. The aim of the program is to help create a “pipeline” of students starting with the BA and continuing on to the Ph.D. who would form a new cohort of social scientists committed to critical scholarship. It also seeks to engage Arab academic institutions and campuses to form a network of universities that support students nationally and regionally.

NewGen is funded by OSF and Sida

Since its inception, the program entitled “A new generation of social scientists in the Arab region (2030) (NewGen)” has been successful in onboarding 198 fellows from (19) universities in Lebanon, Egypt, Tunisia, and Palestine at the BA, MA and Ph.D. levels. The program is developing noticeable progress and since its launch has offered the fellows seven online

courses developed by the ACSS and numerous networking and learning opportunities in the social sciences through webinars, monthly activities, and workshops. NewGen is now in its 3rd cycle and will launch the 4th cycle in April 2023.

University Partnerships

1) Fellowship Cohort 3 Partnerships

In 2022, NewGen did not establish partnerships with new universities but only renewed MoUs with the Lebanese American University (LAU), the American University in Cairo (AUC), Birzeit University, and Sfax University. We had also mentioned in previous reports that although we did not manage to sign MOUs with Egyptian public universities, the American University in Cairo, our main partner university, has been encouraging students from Cairo and Alexandria universities to apply in their own capacities to the program and prior to 2022, applications for the NewGen program in Egypt were only open to students from these two universities in addition to AUC students. However, for the third round of applications that was launched in 2022, we opened up the program to all Egyptian universities with MA and PhD programs in the social sciences, significantly increasing the number of participating universities in Egypt. The decision was in line with our long-term vision to expand NewGen, responding as well to the noticeable interest in the program and large number of requests made by Egyptian students confirmed by our Country Program Coordinator (CPC) in Egypt. We consider this increase in demand a positive sign that the program has garnered a solid reputation in the country.

2) Country Program Coordinators (CPCs) Meeting

On March 23 and 24, 2022, the ACSS invited the NewGen CPCs and the Focal Points (FPs) in Lebanese participating universities to its office in Beirut to take stock of program achievements as well as areas where more progress can be made and plans moving forward. The CPCs in attendance were Dr. Hanan Sabea (Egypt) from AUC, Dr. Abaher Elsaka (Palestine) from Birzeit University, Ms. Carol Abi Ghanem (Lebanon) LAU, and Dr. Houssem Eddine Chachia (Tunisia) from Sfax University, in addition to the Lebanon FPs Dr. Sari Hanafi from AUB and Dr. Nahed Rawas from the Lebanese University (LU). Director General Dr. Seteney Shami, Associate Director Dr. Moushira Elgeziri, NewGen Program Coordinator Ms. Lubna Maaliki, and Program Assistant Mr. Jamil Bazzi represented the ACSS.

During the meeting, the attendees discussed the level of fellows' engagement with the program, CPC duties, the format of online courses and activities, and the application process, in addition to the context-specific difficulties that stand in the way of issuing Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with certain public universities in the region.

3) NewGen Cohort 3 Applicants

As usual, during the application window period, the NewGen program facilitated information sessions about the program across the four participating countries amounting to 11 information sessions in total. With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, and in addition to the virtual sessions, on-campus and in-person information sessions were organized in the participating countries for the first time since the program's inception. It is noteworthy that one of the virtual sessions brought together potential applicants and CPCs from all participating countries, instead of the usual format that invited country-specific students interested in applying.

The call for Cohort 3 applications was launched on April 1, 2022, and the deadline was May 25, 2022. It was disseminated across all 16 partner and participating universities through their social media and communication networks as well as the ACSS social media platforms. The applications were built and submitted on the new ACSS Grants Management System (GMS) instead of Google Forms. The shift to GMS allowed for more flexibility in the application building process, easier application monitoring and management, and more accurate and accessible data collection.

In the 2022 version of the application, some questions were refined for clarity and precision, following feedback from the CPCs. The application was also made available in French, and included a new question about digital literacy skills, and a video tutorial instructing applicants on how to properly record the video in the application. In addition, the revised application included on the first page a schedule of activities and courses NewGen fellows are expected to participate in, in order to set applicants' expectations regarding the program workload before applying.

We received a total of 582 applications from the four countries of which 139 were complete. It is worth mentioning that of the completed applications, 64% came from women and 50% were first generation university students. Each completed application was first screened by ACSS staff for eligibility. The screening for eligibility (e.g. enrollment in a study program, not enrolled in a university that is not affiliated with the program) reduced the number of applications from 139 to 102.

Each eligible application was then reviewed by two reviewers: an internal ACSS reviewer and the Country Program Coordinator. In Palestine, the university faculty committee of the NewGen showed interest in taking an active part in the selection, worked with the CPC on evaluating the applications, and provided a collective score. In Lebanon, Egypt, and Tunisia, the CPCs provided their scores individually.

We selected 77 applications for interviews and accepted 48. For the third cohort interviews, each CPC interviewed the shortlisted applicants from their country along with the ACSS program coordinator and assistant. The table below shows the selection funnel.

Fellows' Journey

1) Cohort 3 Onboarding

As a welcoming activity, an onboarding session was held for the selected fellows of Cohort 3 in each participating country during the September-October 2022 period. The onboarding sessions were led by the four CPCs. During these sessions, fellows were further acquainted with the fellowship's rules and regulations, the expected level of commitment, and the monthly activities agenda. They also met with the fellows of Cohorts 1 and 2.

After the welcoming activity, the CPCs at the main partner universities devised plans for the various monthly activities for the fellows in each country. The activities are based on findings about fellows' interests and training and knowledge gaps as discerned from the application screening and conversations between the CPCs and the fellows. The monthly activities include elements of skill development, knowledge building, career guidance, community building, and academic discussions.

2) Community Building

As part of the community building plan, the NewGen program coordinator with the support of the program assistant and the CPCs kicked off the third Peer Buddy activity, which introduced NewGen fellows to food studies and ways in which food can be analyzed from a social science perspective. One of the main aims of the exercise was to strengthen the fellows' understanding of the relationship between food, gender, culture, and socioeconomic background. The activity, which fellows had to complete in teams of two, took place over the span of four months and included an introductory lecture on food studies, readings suggested by the NewGen team, and two sessions dedicated to the fellows' final presentations.

Additionally, on June 22, 2022, the NewGen program organized a "PhD Day" that showcased the research carried out by the PhD fellows for their doctoral projects, via Zoom. The event was an opportunity for PhD fellows to get to know each other and share their dissertation topics. It combined oral presentations about the fellows' PhD projects with a space for debate and exchange of ideas, as well as suggestions by their NewGen peers. BA and MA fellows were invited to participate in the event to meet peers and get acquainted with the experience of choosing a research topic, conducting research, undertaking field work, and writing a

dissertation. The activity was met with positive feedback from CPCs and fellows and a request for an "MA Day" from the MA fellows.

In May 2022, the ACSS launched a new working group on "Contexts of Violence in the Arab Region", with support from the Fondation Maison des sciences de l'homme (FMSH) in Paris with funds from the Carnegie Corporation of New York (See below).. In line with our vision to strengthen ties between NewGen fellows and other programs at the Council and promote fellows' training and research opportunities, we launched a call for research assistant applications for the new working group, specifically targeting our MA and PhD NewGen fellows. The fellows went through an application process, submitted writing samples and were interviewed by the working group head researchers. In July 2022, four NewGen fellows were selected: Ms. Fairouz Salameh (Palestine) as Dr. Amirah Silmi's research assistant, Mr. Ahmed Bilel Kotti (Tunisia) as Dr. Choukri Hmed's research assistant, Ms. Fatma Mosaad (Egypt) as Dr. Youssef El Chazli's research assistant, and Mr. Ziad Jbeily (Lebanon) as Dr. Ali Kassem's research assistant.

Furthermore, and in order to increase NewGen's online visibility and consolidate its importance as one of the main programs at the ACSS, a webpage for NewGen fellows, where they can post articles, blogs and podcasts, and exchange feedback with their peers on various projects was established. The website will eventually be integrated into the new main ACSS website that is now nearing completion.

Workshops and Courses

Online Courses

The NewGen program successfully launched two modules as part of a course under the title "Critical Methodologies" between March and May 2022. The first module, entitled "Research Methods", was mandatory for BA and MA fellows and the other, entitled "Research Ethics", was mandatory for BA, MA, and PhD fellows. In total, around 50 fellows attended and completed the above-mentioned courses which included readings, short lectures, in-class and forum discussions, assignments, and two-hour meetings with the Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) through Zoom on a weekly basis. Additionally, the BA and MA fellows of Cohort 3 attended the first module from the "Critical Methodologies'' series entitled "How to Think Like a Social Scientist" in October 2022. In November 2022, MA and PhD fellows of Cohort 2 attended the "Data Management" module and will attend the "Feminist Perspectives" module in April 2023. BA and MA fellows of Cohort 3 will attend the "Research Methods" module in January 2023. A previously-offered elective course on "Urban Studies" was offered again in November 2022 for Cohorts 2 and 3. In addition, the elective courses "Gender Studies", "Urban Studies", and

"Global History" will be available for fellows in April-May 2023. The elective courses "Cultural Studies" and "Oral History" will be delivered in July 2023.

Below are descriptions of the courses:

Critical Methodologies Course- Module 1: How to Think Like a Social Scientist: This module is an introduction that explains how to develop a critical perspective to study and analyze societies, social relations, and cultural patterns, as well as the relationship of researchers with themselves and their place in the midst of all this (i.e., the importance of reflexivity). The focus of the module is on "imagination" – how to think about phenomena, facts, and possibilities in the past, present, and future. It is an introduction to critical reading and writing—that is, it shows how to identify strengths and weaknesses in specific texts and how to understand them in their theoretical, social, and cultural contexts. The module deals with key concepts relevant across multiple disciplines and beyond the scope of the social and academic sciences, i.e., also related to concepts and phrases used in the public sphere, journalism, literature, art, civil society work and activism.

Critical Methodologies Course- Module 2: Research Methods: This module is an introduction to research design, the importance of research questions and problems, and the relationship between the choice of research methods and research questions. The module provides fellows with an overview of a range of research methods and techniques, including 1) qualitative methods such as participant observation, interviews, oral history and focus groups. It focuses on ethnographic research (and associated techniques) as an example of a major methodological approach in qualitative social sciences; and 2) quantitative methods (such as surveys), demographic data, and ways of accessing and reading official statistics.

Critical Methodologies Course- Module 3: Research Ethics: This module introduces fellows to the principles of ethics for scientific research in the social sciences. It introduces the general rules and principles of research ethics as well as how to approach the ethical dilemmas that researchers may face during the entire research process such as preparing for the research, going to the field, and collecting data, as well as the publication and dissemination stage. Fellows are trained to identify ethical issues related to their own research and how these issues should be addressed.

Critical Methodologies Course- Module 4: Feminist perspectives: This module will introduce students to feminism as a method of study as well as different schools and types of feminisms. It will revolve around the production of knowledge using feminist methodologies and approaches that mainly seek to remove power barriers between researcher and participants as well as ways of giving voice to women especially those who have been

historically marginalized. The module will also look into the relationship between women studies, gender studies, and feminist studies.

Critical Methodologies Course- Module 5: Data Management: This module of the Critical Methodologies Course is about the importance of research data: how it is used, preserved and archived. It will also address metadata, open access data, data ethics, and dissemination.

Urban Studies: This course aims to shed light on issues in relation to the right to the city (public vs. private, security, resources etc). The readings offered in this course deal with a number of contemporary urban issues such as: the right to the city, discourse on Arab, regional, and global cities, social movements and urban space, gender-feminism and space, art and the city, minorities, the displaced, and the marginalized, and the relationship of the rural population to the city. The first four weeks are devoted to readings and discussions related to these topics. The fifth week is devoted to working on a research project based on the readings discussed, in addition to using field information, observations, and interviews to develop the final assignment which will be submitted in the form of a podcast. The final project consists of conducting an interview with an individual from the fellows' country that lived in the city and the village to understand the difference between both areas.

Oral History: This course focuses on Oral History as a qualitative research method. In particular, oral history focuses on the stories of those whose voices were once ignored. It has a special value in recording the situation and experiences of women and those working in the agriculture and industry field, linguistic minorities, colonial societies, immigrants, and refugees. The course will introduce fellows to the principles of Oral History for scientific research in the social sciences and how to utilize it for their own research.

Cultural Studies: This introductory course explores the central concepts, terms, and theories in the interdisciplinary field of Cultural Studies, such as power, hegemony, ideology and representation. The course will focus on critical cultural analysis. We will examine how structures of domination and resistance operate in a society through cultural practices mediated by constructions of race, class, sexuality, gender and citizenship among others. The course will examine the concept of textuality by expanding the notion of "text" and what constitutes venues for cultural analysis, including literature and media, as well as cultural artifacts and practices that relate to wider systems of power. These venues for analysis, or what we call "cultural texts," can then take both material and immaterial forms: political slogans, subcultures, historic events, fashion, cultural rituals, and riots, in addition to literary texts and film. The course will explore what constitutes a text, how some texts are more valued than others and how this value relates to the distribution of power in society. The course studies and analyzes these cultural texts using the key theoretical foundations in Cultural Studies that delve

into post-colonialism, political sociology, critical race studies, and feminist theory, among others. By doing so, the course demonstrates how cultural texts can reproduce or subvert hegemonic systems of inequality.

Global History: This course examines events from 1910 to today. It looks at the two world wars, the Great Depression, and the political and economic ideologies that shaped the features of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. In doing so, the course analyzes the effects of these events on regions, especially the Middle East and North Africa. It also questions if past patterns of migration, nationalism, as well as political, economic and social crises help us understand the challenges of our time? To what extent did the First and Second World Wars constitute a "world war"? How can we make sense of the new global divisions? How can we analyze the roles played by the great powers during the Cold War? What are the effects of globalization on migration, demographic changes, and global citizenship? Moreover, the course looks at the dynamics of combinations, differences, and divisions resulting from spiritual, economic, environmental, military, and political ideologies. The broader objective of this course is to understand the great forces that hold the parts of the world together and those that divide them, as well as the methodological requirements relevant to the study of points of convergence and difference.

NewGen Graduates

A letter and certificate of completion were sent to all fellows who successfully finished their two-year NewGen fellowship. Fellows who were committed and completed the majority of activities but had to leave the program due to graduation or work-related purposes, received a letter and certificate of participation. In Palestine, Dr. Abaher El-Sakka (CPC), planned a graduation ceremony in October 2022 at the Birzeit campus. However, due to student protests at the university, the ceremony was postponed to November 2022. In Egypt, Dr. Hanan Al Sabea (CPC) planned a graduation ceremony for the fellows in Egypt that took place in November 2022. The program coordinator, Ms. Lubna Maaliki and associate director, Dr. Moushira Elgeziri, joined the ceremony during their trip to Cairo where they met with the dean of libraries, dean of graduate studies and the dean of the undergraduate studies at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and the dean of the faculty at the American University in Cairo (AUC) as part of strengthening the ties between ACSS and AUC. It is worth noting that 20 fellows from Cohort 1 have decided to remain in the program and not graduate, despite finishing their requirements. They continue to participate in activities and enroll in the online courses that are of interest to them.

Lessons Learned and Final Remarks

The NewGen program has been growing stronger and more solid by the day. We have developed a program of study and activities that foreground critical pedagogies and interdisciplinary training and responds to the priorities we had identified at the launch of the program. In three years, the NewGen fellowship managed to bring together 198 fellows from four countries, onboarding 16 universities from Lebanon, Tunisia, Palestine, and Egypt. While we at the ACSS have been keen on branching out and affiliating with universities from additional countries in the Arab region, such as Sudan, the bureaucracy in the institutions and/or political turmoil in the countries we had in mind hindered our expansion.

Although COVID-19 restrictions derailed several of the plans for the program, the CPCs transitioned smoothly into planning and developing lively and engaging online activities, including film screenings and book discussions among others. Given that our NewGen courses and activities involving fellows from all participating countries were originally conceived in the online format, that aspect of the program did not require much revisiting during the pandemic. During the regional online activities, such as the ones included in the Peer Buddy program, we made sure to create an inclusive space for all fellows to exchange ideas, research interests, and concerns, by highlighting the importance of respectful and open dialogues even during disagreements, fighting stereotypes, and emphasizing that there are no taboo topics.

Realizing the importance of bringing NewGen fellows from different countries together beyond the digital classroom, we prioritized involving them in other different activities and exposing them to various opportunities and academics in the field. For instance, in 2020, we invited Dr. Mohammed Bamyeh, Professor of Sociology at the University of Pittsburgh and chairperson of the ACSS Board of Trustees, to discuss with the fellows, via Zoom, the first ACSS Arab Social Science Report titled “Social Sciences in the Arab World: Forms of Presence”. Additionally, and with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, we made sure to include NewGen fellows in in-person academic activities within and beyond the ACSS. For example, one of our NewGen fellows participated in the ACSS Fourth Summer Institute on Critical Security Studies that took place in June 2022 in Broummana, Lebanon.

In addition, NewGen established an agreement with the Media and Digital Literacy Academy of Beirut (MDLAB) held by LAU, whereby MDLAB accepted five NewGen fellows to participate in the academy in May 2022. At MDLAB, our fellows spent three weeks in Lebanon during which they met with regional and international students and worked on projects combining social sciences and media. The NewGen team had several ideas to further strengthen connections among fellows from different countries, and between fellows and CPCs and was keen on bringing together NewGen fellows from Cohorts 1 and 2 by organizing a retreat, in addition to

graduation ceremonies where fellows get the chance to showcase research projects. However, limited program funds did not allow for either of these events to take place.

On the internships front, we provided our MA fellows with a comprehensive list of organizations and universities that accepted interns. Several of the fellows in Egypt joined internships which eventually led to full time jobs. Furthermore, our collaboration with AUC allowed non-AUC fellows to enter the campus and benefit from the university's activities and libraries.

Given the dearth of literature written in Arabic in some social science fields, we consider the material (articles, book chapters, training materials) translated into Arabic and shared with the fellows as an achievement of the program. By removing linguistic monopoly on certain academic concepts, we believe that we have facilitated fellows' access to different schools of thought. Similarly, we are also proud to have strengthened fellows' academic and professional abilities by focusing on skill sets that are relevant to the social sciences and the job market – such as online research, blogging, digital storytelling, podcasting, and soon, data management.

We have repeatedly made the point that the impact of the NewGen program requires at least ten years to unravel, as cohorts transition from one stage to the other, ending with the PhD. The valuable initial three-year support made possible by the OSF grant has enabled us to implement the pilot phase of NewGen, and introduce and test our interventions and learning modalities. As we end this stage, we are evaluating our achievements and revisiting areas that need improvement. The expansion of the program, building new institutional partnerships, instilling the NewGen learning culture in regional academic institutions and expanding the number of students in different universities remains our goal on the medium and long term and it hinges upon the availability of funding.

E. Gender Programs

Mapping the Production of Knowledge on Women and Gender in the Arab Region (MPK)
MPK is funded by OSF

Mapping the Production of Knowledge on Women and Gender in the Arab Region (MPK) is a project of the University of California Davis Arab Region Consortium (UCDAR https://sjoseph.ucdavis.edu/ucdar), in partnership with the Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS). MPK's goal is to map the production of knowledge (MPK) on women and gender in the Arab region from 1970 to the present, under the thematic of socialities (the political and the economic to be mapped later). The purpose of MPK is to identify all the critical work that has been published, what topics were researched, who carried out the research, on what countries,

using what theories and methods, published in what languages, and what findings, and the like.

In 2022, MPK focused on searching six databases in Proquest: Sociological Abstracts, ERIC, Gender Watch, Language and Linguistics, Psycho Info and Index Islamicus. Sociological Abstracts was completed and uploaded to the website (removing duplicates, irrelevance, and then coding). Sociological Abstracts produced close to 5,000 references. The searches of the remaining five Proquest databases were completed. Duplicates among the full six databases need to be removed before coding. Then they will be uploaded to the website. An Algorithm was developed to turn the coding into an automatic process and is continually tested.

Three EBSCO databases were searched: Anthropology Plus, Historical Abstracts, Women's Studies International with duplicates and irrelevance removed. The next step is removing the duplicates from EBSCO in relation to Proquest Databases, and uploading to website. We have started searching the Bielefeld database for relevant references (RIS files).

Much time has been spent working on the MPK website and integrating it within the ACSS website. A number of problems in the design of the website have been addressed, and editing is now complete. There are still several structural problems in the way the back-end coding was done that are being addressed and once that is complete, the database will be sent to a small group of scholars for testing, hopefully in the coming month or so. Articles have been written and uploaded to the MPK webpage.

MPK team will be meeting in Beirut for a two-day workshop in February 2023, hosted by Lebanese American University to develop a plan of action for writing our analyses of these databases. Two roundtables will be organized at LAU and AUB on the MPK work. This will be the first in-person meeting of the MPK team as all the work done so far, under the OSF grant, has been virtual, as a result of COVID. In 2023, the plan is to complete the current databases, and write and publish the mapping and the analyses.

Gender Studies in the Middle East and North Africa
This project was funded by OSF and IDRC

In 2022 we finalized the copyediting of the publication that resulted from the two-day workshop held in Amman in 2019 with support from OSF and IDRC. The new publication now carries the title "Gender Studies in the Arab Region: New Research Directions" and includes six articles as follows:

- Dr. Hoda El Sadda on the NGOization of gender studies.
- Dr. Dalia Ghanem-Yazbeck on gender and security.

- Drs. Weeam and Doaa Hammoudeh on gender and health in conflict situations
- Dr. Zahia Jouirou on gender and law in Tunisia (in Arabic)
- Drs. Lena Meari and Nida Abu Awwad on gender and higher education in Palestine
- Ms. Serena Canaan and Ms. Yara Taraboulsi on women's economic empowerment.

The book will be an on-line publication and is expected to come out in the first few months of 2023.

The Arab Oral History Archive: Gender, Alternative Histories, and the Production of Knowledge (GOHA)

GOHA is funded by a subaward from AUB funded by the Mellon Foundation

Through a collaboration with the American University of Beirut (AUB) and with funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS) has launched an oral history project entitled: The Arab Oral History Archive: Gender, Alternative Histories, and the Production of Knowledge (henceforth: Gender Oral History Archive — GOHA). This three-year project aims to create new collections of oral histories that support a feminist multidisciplinary critique of knowledge production practices and research methodologies in, from, and about the region; as well as to create a more inclusive and critical body of new situated knowledge.

The GOHA project operates along four main axes, which include: documentation and long-term preservation of primary source material in the region; knowledge production and creation of research groups focused on gender research and oral history; training stakeholders in gender studies and archival practices; as well as networking to increase institutional collaborations and build long-term capacities on feminist best practices and oral history methodologies.

Part of the GOHA project is the "Gendering the Archive Working Group" (GAWG), which is multidisciplinary and brings together researchers and activists engaged in rethinking power dynamics in knowledge production in local and global contexts, from a gender lens. Currently, GAWG has six members: Hoda Elsadda, Lamia Moghnieh, Hana Sleiman, Zahra Ali, Leyla Dakhli, and Reem Joudi.

In 2022, the following deliverables were completed under the GOHA project and/or by GAWG:

1) The completion of 110 oral history interviews in Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Palestine, Syria, and Iraq by six researchers with professional and activist women from the generation of the 1970s. The interviews have been transcribed and edited and are in the process of being published in Arabic in a series of publications titled, Arab *Women of the generation of the*

1970s. The interviews are also being prepared to be archived at the American University of Beirut Libraries.

2) The GAWG planned and hosted a Gendering the Arab Archive Workshop, which was held in Beirut between May 18-20, 2022. A general call was posted in Arabic and English on the ACSS' website in November 2021 as well sent via email invite to members of ACSS' network. Approximately 45 people applied to the workshop and a total of 14 presentations were selected, including one panel/group submission. Five GAWG members (Hoda Elsadda, Lamia Moghnieh, Hana Sleiman, Zahra Ali, and Leyla Dakhli) also presented.

The aims of the workshop were the following:

a) To spotlight research projects and activities that interrogate the Arab Archive from a gender-sensitive perspective.
b) To answer two basic questions: 1- what does gendering the archive mean or entail? 2- What are the constituents/features of an Arab gender archive?
c) To promote a gender perspective in ongoing archival research and projects.

The 24 participants were divided into 8 panels over the workshop's three days. The panels addressed the following themes:
Panel 1—Rethinking Archival Infrastructures
Panel 2 — Marginalized Archival Knowledges
Panel 3 — Archiving Resistance
Panel 4 — Intimate and Family Archives
Panel 5 — Tensions and Silences Within the Archive
Panel 6 — Oral History, Nationalism, and Cultural Resistance
Panel 7 — Affective Archives
Panel 8 — Archives and Autobiography

The GAWG members agreed to produce an Arabic-language print publication from the workshop presentations. A total of 13 articles are expected to be included and are currently in the process of editing. We expect to have the publication ready by July 2023.

In 2023, the GAWG will continue its work and is expected to produce an exhibition on gender, archiving and oral history; physical and virtual meetings for GAWG members and a roundtable at the ACSS Conference in May 2023.

F. Working Groups

Funding is provided by the Carnegie Corporation for Critical Security Studies (CSS) and New Regionalisms (NR); and by the Mellon Foundation for Ethnography as Knowledge (EKWG).

Working Groups aim at bringing scholars from across the Arab region, and globally, who are at different stages in their academic careers, to work collectively on a research theme or project. This collaborative work not only allows networking, mentorship and the sharing of academic knowledge, skills and experience, but it also encourages interdisciplinary research within the social sciences and the design of innovative and diverse outputs targeting different audiences within the region and beyond. The first working group was on Producing the Public: Space, Media, Participation. Currently the ACSS has four ongoing working groups: Critical Security Studies (CSS), New Regionalisms, and Ethnography as Knowledge.

Ethnography and Knowledge Working Group (EKWG)

The Ethnography and Knowledge Working group (EKWG) focused in 2022 on publishing and disseminating the research of its members. In addition to the publication/newspaper "Ethnographic Diaries: Capturing the Everyday in Crisis" published jointly with the AUB Rusted Radishes in January 2022, the EKWG also issued a podcast for ethnographic diaries in April 2022 (posted on the ACSS website). (These outputs are detailed under "Print Activities and E-publications below"). The Working Group is currently finalizing a volume on "Living and Dying in Times of Corona: Perspectives from Medical Anthropology in the Arab Region".

Critical Security Studies Working Group (CSS)

The CSS working group is the longest-standing ACSS working group since it was established in 2016. The establishment phase of the CSS came to an end in December 2019. By that time, the CSS working group had laid out its structure and defined its main outputs and signature

activities (Summer Institutes, themes, Manifesto, etc.). In 2022, the CSS working group focused on two main aspects: organizing and hosting the Fourth ACSS Critical Security Studies Summer Institute, and planning the activities of the Northwestern University Qatar (NU-Q) hub of the Beirut School of CSS WG within the Institute for Advanced Studies of the Global South at NU-Q (IAS-NUQ) – henceforth referred to as the Qatar Hub.

The ACSS's Fourth Critical Security Studies Summer Institute

In order to implement its mission to provide professional mentorship to scholars based in and working on the Arab region, the CSS working group aims to organize regular trainings to encourage and equip junior researchers with the necessary theoretical tools and practical skills for conducting critical research on issues of (in)security in the Arab region. As part of this goal, the ACSS —with the help of the CSS working group co-coordinators Drs. Sami Hermez and Omar Dahi— held its Fourth CSS Summer Institute on June 28 – July 3, 2022 in Broummana, Lebanon and hosted seven specialists and 15 junior regional researchers, six of whom were from public universities. It introduced participants to theories and research methods pertinent to the field of CSS in the region, provided them with a space to present and receive feedback on their research from field specialists, and opened the floor for discussions on teaching, writing, and academic publishing.

The Summer Institute hosted the following specialists to give guest lectures and professionalization workshops: Drs. Sami Hermez (Northwestern University in Qatar), Omar Dahi (Hampshire College), Diala Hawi (Doha Institute for Graduate Studies), Anna Stavrianakis (University of Sussex), Bashir Saade (University of Stirling), Jamil Mouawad (American University of Beirut), and Zina Sawaf (Lebanese American University). Additionally, Drs. Sami Hermez, Omar Dahi, Diala Hawi, and Bashir Saade also acted as mentors to the participants by offering detailed verbal and written feedback on the junior researchers' current academic projects.

The six-day institute included an introductory session to the ACSS and the CSS working group, six thematic sessions, three professionalization workshops, one keynote talk, one field trip, three mentoring sessions, one writing session, and two final presentation sessions. The following thematic sessions introduced researchers to important elements in the field of the CSS: Introduction to Critical Security Studies and the Middle East (led by Drs. Omar Dahi and Anna Stavrianakis), The State in Critical Security Studies (led by Dr. Jamil Mouawad), The Insecurity of Everyday Life (led by Dr. Sami Hermez), The Psychology of Security (led by Dr. Diala Hawi), Critical Approaches to Gender and Fieldwork (led by Dr. Zina Sawaf), and Critical Approaches to Religion and Politics (led by Dr. Bashir Saade). It is noteworthy that the participants were asked to do readings assigned by the specialists prior to each of the sessions in order to fully engage with the material. As for the professionalization workshops, they

covered the topics of Research Ethics (led by Dr. Jamil Mouawad), Writing, Collaborating, and Publishing (led by Dr. Bashir Saade), and Academic Writing and the Landscape of Publication in CSS (led by Dr. Anna Stavrianakis). The keynote talk —given by Dr. Anna Stavrianakis— tackled a prevalent topic within the field of CSS: how to think about the circulation of technologies of violence and the political economy behind them. Additionally, and as a way to explore a tangible case study for topics highlighted in the institute, Dr. Jamil Mouawad took the participants on a walking tour of Beirut that investigated the political, historical, urban, and socioeconomic contexts of the Lebanese capital post-explosion. Following these various sessions and in addition to the writing and mentoring sessions led by the specialists, the last day of the institute was an opportunity for the participants to showcase their research after the feedback and advising they had received throughout the week, during the final presentations.

In order to document the Fourth Summer Institute, the ACSS produced and disseminated a booklet (accessible here) detailing the inception of the CSS working group, the mission, structure and program of the Summer Institute, and the backgrounds and research areas of the specialists and the junior researchers.

The Qatar Hub

As the ACSS prepares to sign an MoU with Northwestern University in Qatar to finalize the co-creation of a regional CSS hub at IAS-NUQ, an important aspect of the CSS working group in 2022 was conceptualizing activities and outputs for the Qatar Hub. ACSS staff members liaised with CSS co-coordinators Drs. Sami Hermez and Omar Dahi several times to devise a robust work plan for the upcoming year. The projected activities include monthly brown bag meetings involving regional scholars in the field of CSS, workshops and webinars on various topics within the discipline (such as Time and Violence, and Law, Security, and Surveillance), a panel at the Sixth ACSS conference in May 2023, and joint publications that will be featured on both ACSS and IAS-NUQ websites.

Lessons Learned

The CSS working group continues to attract and engage regional Arab scholars in its activities. In the coming phase the CSS will launch activities in Qatar from a new base at Northwestern University. There will be less focus on engaging the core members of the group, and more focus on outputs, activities involving regional academics, the Qatar Hub and the Beirut Forum.

As part of the ACSS's digital renovation, the Beirut Forum website is currently being redesigned. Not unlike its previous iteration, it will feature the work of all ACSS working groups, in hopes that the consolidation of WG research and publications, the development of pedagogical tools

such as syllabi and text books, and the increased online visibility of WG members' work on the Beirut Forum will generate enough material for regional junior researchers to engage with.

New Regionalisms Working Group

The "New Regionalisms" working group, coordinated by Dr. Adam Hanieh assisted by Dr. Hamza Hammouchene, organized a workshop on March 27, 2021 that was attended by 20 invited participants from the Middle East, North America, Europe, and Asia. The aim of the workshop was to discuss themes raised by Hanieh's working paper on 'Space, Scale, and Region: Thinking Through the New Dynamics of the Middle East' published on the ACSS working group website, The Beirut Forum and plan new publications. In March 2022 the working group published a total of 14 working papers on "Contexts of Violence in the Arab Region"

Working Group on Contexts of Violence in the Arab Region

A decade after the Arab Spring events, the new wave of uprisings starting in 2019 and the relentless attack of Covid-19 opened up new questions about the states of violence in the Arab region. Some countries in the region claim "stability" and restoration of social and political order, others are experiencing stalemate, yet others are in protracted conflicts, or open dissent. Palestine, for one, continues to suffer settler colonialism and occupation with no openings in the horizon. Violence is not always expressed through open conflict or political dissent. It is also deeply structural and enduring as with sectarianism, gender inequalities, class divisions, displacement and increasing securitization and militarization of all aspects of life. Different actors strive for structural change, for more open public life, accountability and transnational justice, while others work towards safeguarding entrenched privilege and power.

In 2022, the ACSS formed a working group "Contexts of Violence in the Arab Region", with support from the Fondation Maison des sciences de l'homme (FMSH) in Paris, funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The working group focuses on regional and country perspectives on the strategies employed by states, societies and actors to navigate these predicaments in the Arab region.

The Working Group includes four lead researchers and four research assistants representing Lebanon, Palestine, Egypt and Tunisia. They will prepare a background bibliographic paper surveying the state of the art and documenting relevant digital and print resources on the specific topic of the paper as per the following: Dr. Amirah Silmi assisted by Ms. Fairouz Salameh focusing on Palestine on the topic of political repression, Dr. Ali Kassem assisted by Mr. Ziad El Jbeily focusing on Lebanon on the topic of (Where) should 'Violence' Go? On Modern 'Respectable' Politics and Alternative Imaginaries , Dr. Choukri Hmed assisted by Mr. Ahmed Bilel Kotti focusing on Tunisia on the topic of economic foundations of violence, and Dr.

Youssef El Chazli assisted by Ms. Fatma Mosaad focusing on Egypt on the topic of Violence Against Nature.

On July 13, 2022, the Working Group held a full day Zoom meeting to discuss the aims of the working group, the themes of each lead researcher and plan the next steps.

On November 11 and 12 the Working Group attended an in-person workshop in Beirut to present and discuss the background and research papers and plan the publication. Members of the working group will also participate in two panels at the ACSS 6th Conference in May 2023 dedicated to the work and results of the Working Group and its thematic topic.

Working Group on Safeguarding Knowledge Production in the Arab Region

In 2022, ACSS received a grant from the IDRC to undertake a two-year project entitled "Safeguarding Knowledge Production" that would allow us to identify the issues that lead to silences around critical challenges facing the region. The importance of this area of research derives from the fact that while the Arab region like other countries around the world face challenges and opportunities afforded by new technologies and digital spaces, the Arab region, especially faces new threats and controls through cyber-surveillance and ongoing constraints of control over public space and public speech or 'traditional' forms of silencing voices that contest existing power structures. Moreover, the Arab region also mostly lacks effective organizations that work to safeguard freedom of speech whether by academics, activists, journalists or concerned citizens. Thus the ACSS has proposed to undertake a study to diagnose the contexts of knowledge production in the Arab region through a scoping study with an in depth focusing on the three themes of "gender and sexuality", "pandemic preparedness and response", "environmental risks and climate change". The three areas of inquiry provide examples of differing 'sensitivities' and risks that then are articulated differently in different countries and settings. They all presuppose as well, interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary capacities and collaborations.

The ACSS has already drawn up a work-plan that, in addition to the scoping of the three areas, would involve consultations and institutional collaborations, regionally and globally, that would deepen understanding of contexts, issues and good practices for supporting researchers at risk, or potentially at risk. In addition, the project would generate institutional learning to develop programming that ensures safe spaces for research, teaching and discussion in the fields of governance, health, rights, and social sciences more generally as well as creating inter-institutional networks to enhance the ability of any one institution to act effectively.

Towards that goal, we have identified a prospective Lead Project Researcher (LPR), Dr. Zeina Jallad, who will play an integral role in project development, oversight and management over

the course of project term. She will be assisted by Ms. Joanne Boustany, who will act as coordinator of the working group, among other tasks at the ACSS. We have also identified and begun to finalize participation of key members of project Working Group. These members (6-8) are familiar with one or more of the key project themes (gender/sexuality, pandemic preparedness and response, environment/climate), with different disciplinary and sub-regional/country expertise. Finally, we as ACSS staff have begun conducting background research on cases/practices that will inform Working Group discussions, including the creation of a database that tracks organizations that are dedicated to advancing support for academic freedom and/or human rights more generally, the local, regional, or country-specific contexts where these organizations operate, and the topics, words, or ideas that are covered in these spaces. In addition, we have begun to document instances of violations of academic freedom and right to science occurring around the three project themes where possible.

G. Critical Humanities Initiative

The Initiative is funded by grants from the Mellon Foundation, UNESCO (Beirut and Cairo) and a subaward from the University of Wisconsin funded by the Mellon Foundation

Since 2017, the ACSS has been focusing on the humanities (as well as Arts and Culture) in the Arab Region. Much of this work has been in partnership with UNESCO, the World Humanities Forum and the World Humanities Report. In 2020, the ACSS has been working on the Arab Region portion of the World Humanities Report. This included mapping and analyzing the landscape of critical humanities in the Arab region as well as soliciting essays on different aspects of humanities disciplines and fields. This has helped identify the individuals, organizations, institutions, and platforms working on the humanities through a critical perspective. The World Humanities Report (WHR) is being produced by The Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes (CHCI) on behalf of the International Council of Philosophy and the Human Sciences (CIPSH) and in collaboration with UNESCO. From January - December 2021, the following activities were completed:

- The ACSS commissioned 23 rigorous, forward thinking, academic essays or think pieces on themes, research methods, pedagogies, people, modes and institutions involved in shaping and reshaping humanities knowledge in and on the region. Each of the essays written by various scholars and writers in the Arab region, addressed the relationship between criticality and the humanities from a different perspective. The essays were finalized and copy-edited over this time period, and they were categorized under four sections— Layered Hegemonies: Academic Imaginaries; Urgency and Temporality; Feminist Platforms; and Translating and Traveling Genres.
- The data from the 26 completed surveys (see previous report) was analyzed and individual case-study profiles were produced for each organization. The profiles placed the survey

responses within the broader context of critical humanistic knowledge production in the Arab region.

- The English essays and surveys (case-studies) will be published by the World Humanities Report on their website. An Arabic version of the essays will be published by ACSS as Volume II of the annual publication *Qiraat*.

While the Arab Region Report is completed, in 2022, the ACSS will continue its work on Critical Humanities. New essays will be solicited and the survey will be extended to cover other institutions. A dedicated multilingual website, linked to the main ACSS website, will be built to present this work, as an ongoing archive of the Humanities in the Arab region.

H. The Arab Social Science Monitor (ASSM)

Funding for the ASSM and the Iraq project is provided by CCNY. The Dataverse project is funded by a sub-grant from the University of North Carolina with funding from CCNY.

The Arab Social Science Monitor (ASSM) is an observatory of the landscape of the social sciences and higher education in the Arab region. It documents the infrastructure of knowledge production in terms of institutions and resources and accounts for the evolving capacities and characteristics of the social science community across the region. The ASSM makes data and knowledge produced available for the public through two main mechanisms: (1) online databases and (2) publications.

ASSM governance and staffing

A 26-member Advisory Committee guides the technical and programmatic aspects of the ASSM includes current and former ACSS board of trustees' members and country focal points (for ASSM Advisory Committee members, please click here).

The ASSM team currently consists of two full-time staff: Ms. Nada Chaya, Project Leader, and Mr. Rami Ofeich, Data Analyst. Additionally, the ASSM works with many consultants for the various ASSM activities as stated in the following sections.

Third Arab Social Science Report (ASSR3)

The ASSR3, whose lead author is Dr. Ahmad Dallal, President of the American University in Cairo, is titled "The academic universes and career trajectories of social scientists in the Arab world". The ASSR3 charts the career trajectories of social scientists and humanists within universities in the Arab world and explores the factors that enable or constrain the progress of

these careers. The report is based on quantitative data collected in 2019 through an online survey of the characteristics and career trajectories of Arab social scientists and humanists as well as six qualitative background papers commissioned and prepared to provide the institutional context (http://www.theacss.org/pages/third-assm-report). The lead author submitted the report to the ACSS in December 2022 and it is going through a final round of copy-editing before publication.

Fourth Arab Social Science Report (ASSR4)

The ASSR4 has the working title "Humanities in the Arab Region" and focuses on the state of humanities in the Arab region. The lead author of the ASSR4 is Dr. Hoda El Sadda, Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Cairo University Faculty of Arts.

The ASSR4 is based on a series of papers prepared for the World Humanities Report (WHR) 2021, the results of the survey of organizations and projects across the region conducted for the WHR, in-depth interviews with about five humanists in the region, and analysis of data on the humanities infrastructure from the ASSM Databases. The last focused on history, literature and philosophy and involved the compilation of additional data on languages and translation in higher education institutions to complement the data on literature available in the ASSM Databases.

In addition, 10 background were commissioned specifically for the ASSR4 that covered history, philosophy, literary studies, translation, cultural and artistic initiatives, cinema, and digital humanities (for the titles and authors of the 10 background papers please click here). A virtual and productive meeting was held with background papers authors on May 23 and 24, 2022, to discuss the first draft of their papers (for the meeting agenda please click here).

A first draft of the ASSR4 is expected in July 2023.

Iraq Project: The Social Sciences Experience in Six Iraqi Universities

The goal of the project is to better understand the current state of social sciences in Iraqi universities through (a) a documentation of the social science infrastructure in six Iraqi universities (Baghdad university, Salahaddin University-Erbil, Thi-Qar university, Kufa university, Tikrit university and Mosul university), and (b) a survey of the career trajectories of social science scholars in these universities. A three-member Advisory Committee guides the development and progress of the project and so far assisted the ACSS on the best channels of communication with various stakeholders; in connecting with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research and with the selected universities (they were instrumental in identifying six lead researchers from the six universities) and in planning project outputs.

In addition to the survey conducted in 2021, a lead researcher in each of the six universities was identified to lead project research activities in his/her university and write an analytical report (background papers) based on the research findings about social sciences in each university (for Iraq project Advisory Committee and team, please click here). With the full team in place, the plan was to start doing research in at the beginning of the 2021/2022 academic year. Unfortunately, the parliamentary elections of October 2021 stood in the way of moving forward with the project.

A meeting was held on February 7 and 8, 2022, in Beirut that included the full team (Lead Author, Research Assistant, six lead researchers, quantitative researcher and ACSS team) to discuss the content, scope and methods of the background papers (for the workshop agenda, please click here). Following the meeting, the researchers started writing their papers, one of which was written in Kurdish language. In addition, the ACSS launched a survey on the career trajectories of social scientists in the six universities on April 21, 2022 that covered higher education, employment, and engagement in research (for the English version of the questionnaire, please click here). Another full team meeting was held on July 4, 2022 to discuss the first draft of the six background papers and the preliminary results of the survey (for workshop agenda, please click here). Based on all the reviewed material, the lead author is in the process of drafting the report that is expected to be finalized by June 2023.

ASSM Databases Updated

In 2022, the ASSM continuously updated the existing higher education institutions (universities), university-based research centers, non-university-based research centers, periodicals and professional societies databases whenever new information became available.

The latest versions of the ASSM Databases are available at https://dataverse.theacss.org/dataverse/assm and were downloaded 172 times. They comprise:

- 689 higher education institutions that offer degree programs in social sciences and/or humanities and 853 that do not
- 764 university-based research centers
- 389 non-university-based research centers
- 260 professional / scientific societies
- 1,679 periodicals
- 482 publishers

In 2022, the ASSM also started developing the academic libraries database. by searching for available online libraries directories at both the regional and country level. This was complemented by a systematic screening of all higher education institution, research centers and professional societies in the ASSM databases for libraries they house.

The information in databases is being utilized to provide the infrastructure context for various ASSM reports: ASSR3, ASSR4 and Iraq Project.

Arab Public Data Initiative

The Arab Public Data Initiative, launched in June 2018, is implemented in collaboration with the Odum Institute for Research in Social Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Initiative aims to promote the norm and practices of data management and data sharing among social scientists and research institutions in the Arab region within the concept of knowledge as a public good. The two objectives of this Initiative are (1) Preserving and facilitating access to social science research data on and in the Arab region, and (2) Capacity building in managing data and making it open.

The work of this Initiative is guided by an active and engaged advisory committee (for Dataverse Advisory Committee and project team, please click here). The fifth meeting of the Advisory Committee was held on December 3, 2022, in hybrid format (online and in person in Denver at the margins of the MESA conference that some Committee and project members were attending). The Committee members were briefed of the activities and they provided specific feedback on how to increase the datasets deposits in the ACSS Dataverse and the amount effort needed to do that (for the Dataverse Advisory Committee mtg agenda, please click here).

A new member (Neil Ketchley from Oxford University) will join the Advisory Committee in 2023; under the renewed grant for the Initiative (2023-2025), Oxford University will become a partner in this Initiative and will help broaden access to data through the collection of additional forms of data such as historic and contemporary geographic information and historic newspapers.

For the first objective, a total of 124 datasets have been deposited into the ACSS Dataverse – www.dataverse.theacss.org – since it went live in June 2019. In 2022, two datasets were added and 16 are in the pipeline. For the second objective, please see the section on Training in this report.

In mid-November the ACSS signed an MOU with the Economic Research Forum (ERF), a regional, independent, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting high quality economic research to contribute to sustainable development in the Arab countries, and MENA region (for a copy of the MOU, please click here). The main goals of the MOU are:

- Promote data management in the region

- Link a selection of datasets from the ERF's OAMDI data portal to the ACSS Dataverse and vice versa to increase the visibility of the datasets in both portals

- Collaborate to offer trainings on preserving and archiving data, and open access, for individuals and institutions in the region

The first event under this MOU is a joint training on Data Management in Cairo in January 2023. This training targets staff of national statistical offices in the Arab region with whom ERF has a long-standing collaboration. The following countries will be represented in the training: Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia.

Finally, the ACSS remains a member of the following data organizations: World Data System (WDS) an International Science Council (ISC) affiliated body, and the International Federation of Data Organizations (IFDO). The ACSS Dataverse is also registered in the Registry of Research Data Repositories (re3data.org), a global registry that lists existing research data repositories from all academic disciplines.

Lessons Learned and Looking Forward

The ASSM continues to fill a gap in mapping the institutional landscape of social science and humanities research and higher education in the Arab region. It also continues to address the unmet need for social science data management and sharing in the region – a niche for the ASSM in the Arab region. The ASSM is increasingly implementing its activities in a targeted way and in Arabic language for increased effectiveness and relevance at the local level.

Two delayed ASSM reports made much progress in 2022 and a third is well-underway. Significant strides were made in the Iraq study through a revised implementation modality, In addition, the ASSR3 moved forward and a final draft is available. For the ASSR4, almost all of the research and data collection started and was completed in 2022 and the writing of the report has started.

The periodic survey that has been conducted at the regional level was applied at the country-level for the first time through the Iraq study. Several Data Management products were adapted or developed in 2022 which is making program implementation faster and smoother. Several of the trainees were involved in Data Management activities (with the ASSM or on their own) as a result of the training; the formation of such a network is one of the goals of the Arab Public Data Initiative under which the ACSS is working on social science research data management. The formalized institutional partnership with the ERF is a major step forward to help expand our work and will hopefully become a model for other institutional partnerships.

Finally, having a roster of expert and vetted consultants is contributing to smother implementation of the ASSM program and to predictable product quality.

In 2023, the ASSM will continue its update of the existing six databases and will develop one more (academic libraries). We will better promote the ASSM Databases and related ASSM Summary Tables; they are an important and unique resource. We will produce and translate to Arabic the ASSR3 and finalize the Iraq Study and the ASSR4. The ASSM will continue its work on social sciences data management and sharing and in a more targeted way, an area of work in which there is a lot of interest and much need for in the region.

I. Training

ACSS started developing its training programs in 2015 many of which have been co-funded with other organizations thus fulfilling one of the targets of the ACSS 5-year Strategy, namely developing a number of long-term co-funded programs and partnerships. In 2018, ACSS redesigned its training offerings to further emphasize interdisciplinarity and field building as well as the promotion of academic networks that create opportunities for cross-national research as well as foster regional collaborations for local knowledge production.

Data Sharing for the Public Good

In 2022, through open as well as targeted calls for applications, the ASSM conducted five workshops in its series of trainings on 'Data management and sharing for the social sciences', bringing up the number of such trainings to 11 since the launch of the Arab Public Data Initiative in June 2018. In addition, a 12th training is scheduled for mid-January 2023. Like previous trainings, these workshops were attended by researchers, administrators, librarians and archivists from diverse sectors (public, private, academia, NGOs, UN, etc). Training material that introduce the participants to the principles and global best practices and tools of data management and sharing, were made available to online workshop participants on the ACSS Moodle. Following is a list of the training workshops.

- Seventh training: March 27 to 29, 2022, training of trainers (TOT). A virtual training was offered that was open to participants in former ACSS data management trainings. Eight participants took part in the workshop.
- Eighth training: August 28-30, 2021, TOT, Beirut, open to participants in former ACSS Data Management trainings. 12 participants attended the workshop.
- Ninth training: September 23, a short version was presented to five participants in the International Forum for Humanities and Social Sciences organized in Tunis

- Tenth training: November 10, 17, 24, 2022, a virtual training was presented to 15 ACSS NewGen fellows in Arabic.
- Eleventh training: December 14, 2022, a short version of the training was presented virtually in Arabic to four ACSS Early Career Fellows.
- Twelfth training (upcoming): January 17 to 19, 2023, Full version, Cairo, in Arabic: 23 participants (out of 37 applicants).

The data management training witnessed a number of important developments in 2022 including that the curriculum was offered in different formats, lengths and languages as follows:

- Curriculum was adapted to allow for training of trainers (TOT). To encourage ToT to take place, training was offered in more targeted ways to specific groups such as former training participants.

- Training expanded to include fellows of various ACSS programs, and international conferences' attendees.

- Training was offered in two lengths: a full three-day version and a shorter four-hour version.

- Training was offered online and in person.

- Training was offered in Arabic and English. Both the long and short versions of the curricula were translated into Arabic (by one of the trainees) and the training has been conducted in Arabic since November 2022. The Arabic translation is a major step forward in our work on Data Management and contribution to the field given the highly technical nature of the material. Plans are now underway to translate the training material into French to reach countries where French is used widely.

- Based on the translation, we compiled a list of over 100 data management technical terms to Arabic; this is a much -needed resource that fills a gap in the region.

Moreover, participants of former trainings were involved in several activities in 2022, and as such, the trainings are fulfilling their aim to create a data management networks in institutions and countries in the region.

- Ms. Cryine Ghannouchi (Research programs planning and development specialist at the Tunisian Forum for Economic and Social Rights in Tunisia)) was a co-trainer in the Tunis training

- Dr. Abdel Rahman Farrag (Professor of library and archival sciences at the department of information sciences at Beni-Suef University in Egypt) translated the long and short curricula to Arabic
- Dr. Nesma Amer (Senior statistician at the Economic Research Forum in Egypt) will be a co-trainersin the upcoming training in Cairo in January 2023
- Dr. Mohamed Salah Eldin Mudawi (Senior specialist in the Data Analysis, Research & Studies Department at Dubai Health Authority) made a presentation on Data Management (1) to a professional group of information and library specialists in the UAE, (2) to the teaching staff and students of Al-Wasl University in Dubai, and (3) as an internal educational session at Department of Data Analysis, Research and Studies of Dubai Health Authority.
- Dr. Abdel Rahman Farrag (Professor of library and archival sciences at the department of information sciences at Beni-Suef University in Egypt) presented the ACSS as a model on RDM work and capacity building in the region, at the Third Arab Forum for Open Access during the Open Access Week in October 2022 organized by the Arab Community for Open Access (ACOA) & the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies. This event was part of the many events held worldwide as part of the year October Open Access Week.
- Dr. Maryeme Ouchen (Assistant professor of cultural studies in the Faculty of Languages, Arts and Social Sciences at Ibn Zohr University- Agadir Morocco) plans to offer the training to her students with support from the ACSS to deliver the training.

J. Research Ethics Initiative

The ACSS launched a pilot project in 2016 to promote regional collaboration on relevant research ethics guidelines, practices and structures. The Initiative aims to:

- Strengthen research ethics infrastructures in the Arab region;
- Build a network of individuals and institutions that can contribute to the development of a culture of research ethics in the region (research institutions, think tanks and NGOs…);
- Strengthen the capacity of the ACSS to mentor and train its grantees on research ethics principles and issues.

New Consultants:

In 2022 Dr. Lana Salman, consultant to the ethics initiative started to revise the ACSS guidelines for research ethics and the work will completed by the end of this month, January 2023. Due, however, to her heavy work load and prior commitments, Dr. Salman will not be able to provide the required leadership of the initiative which is quite ambitious and requires intensive work and attention. Towards the end of 2022, we recruited two new consultants, Dr. Zeina Jallad and Ms.

Joanne Boustani, who among other things, will work on the ethics initiative including, in due course, a training manual and real-life case studies as well as an interactive discussion board/blog/essays and outputs from grantees and others as well as developing 'model' guidelines for other types of institutions (universities, NGOs, grant-making institutions etc.) and helping us plan and conduct training sessions for various constituents including a "Training the Trainer" workshop.

K. Regional, South-South and Global Collaborations

From inception, the ACSS has given importance to South-south, cross-regional and global collaborations as part of its identity and mission. The ACSS seeks to be an entity through which Arab researchers will engage in robust Arab region collaborations and networking but also become integrated into cross-regional and global research projects and social science convening.

In 2022, the ACSS seized opportunities to promote collaboration with sister organization in the Global South as indicated below.

The Right to Education: Perspectives from the Global South: South-to-South Collaboration (ACSS, CODESRIA and CLACSO)

In 2021 CLACSO approached the ACSS and CODESRIA to launch a new research program on the right to education in Latin America, the Arab region and East and Southern Africa. With funding from the OSF, CLACSO is spearheading this south-to-south collaboration to build a network from thought leaders, researchers, activists, teachers, students as well as members of communities that advocate for the right to education from the Global South. The project would present new paradigms, perspectives and realities emerging from the Global South as well as de-colonial approaches based on diversity, inclusion and equality. A working group was formed that included researchers from the Arab region, Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa as well as a steering committee representing the three main research entities/individuals. ACSS Associate director, Dr. Moushira Elgeziri, is representing the ACSS in the committee.

In 2022, the ACSS commissioned Dr. AbdelKader Djeflat, economist from Algeria to write a report on the status of data on the right to higher education in the Arab region. He presented a statistical overview of a select number of countries in the three sub-regions: Mashreq, Maghreb and Gulf countries focusing on: transition (from secondary to higher education, enrolment, retention and completion. Dr. Ray Langsten, research professor at the American University in Cairo was also commissioned to provide a more in-depth comparative analysis of the same themes focusing on Egypt, Tunisia and Jordan.

In June 2022, CLACSO invited ACSS Director General Dr Seteney Shami to be a main speaker on June 9 in a panel on the Global South within the context of CLACSO's Ninth conference on the social sciences that was held in Mexico. She also participated in another panel on June 10 on cooperation among countries of the Global South. In addition, Associate Director, Dr Moushira Elgeziri participated in two events at the conference on the Right to Education in the Global South. During the first conversation, researchers in the Right to Education project representing CLACSO, ACSS and Sub-Saharan Africa presented their work in progress and next steps. In the second event, a public conference session, Dr. Elgeziri gave a presentation on the concept of right to education between definitions of international organizations and practices of governments in the Arab region.

The activities of the working group on the right to education will continue in 2023 and will include a publication to present the results of the research done as well as a flagship event to disseminate the results.

InterAsia

Since April 1, 2021, the ACSS has coordinated the InterAsia Partnership (IAP) through which it remains committed to nurturing the development of scholarship that centers connections and continuities, as well as divergences and differences, while remaining grounded in a robust knowledge of contexts and spaces that overlap, merge and disconnect as outcomes of historical and contemporary processes and forces. The ACSS has prioritized building on the modalities, networks and accomplishments of the long running InterAsia Program formerly housed at the Social Science Research Council, while also working to forge new connections in the Global South, expand the reach of the IAP and address an evolving set of issues that interconnect the region.

To date, the IAP has collaborated with partner institutions on a number of key developments. These include:

- **Development of Research Directions and Core Projects**
  Focus Area: Infrastructures for Knowledge Development
  - ***Developing Research Capacities on East Asia in West Asia*** – working closely with colleagues at the University of Exeter, and in coordination with Dr. Adam Hanieh and his project "Mapping Connections: China and Contemporary Development in the Middle East," the IAP will host the research network's first workshop in Beirut (January 14-15, 2023). The network works to create new knowledge about China and the Middle East, and seeks to strengthen academic collaboration between scholars working in (and on) the Middle East and China. For additional info, see: https://www.china-mena-connections.org/

Focus Area: Power and Regulation

- ***The New Civilizationalisms Project (NCP)*** – working closely with Dr. Srirupa Roy at the University of Göttingen (IAP partner) and her colleague Thomas Hansen of Stanford University, the IAP has contributed to an international collaborative research network that will investigate and document discourses, agents, institutional infrastructures and political consequences of "new civilizationalisms." In particular, the network will focus on how the trope of civilization mainstreams, normalizes and obfuscates authoritarian and enthnomajoritarian commitments of "strongmen" regimes. Members of the research network (more than 20 international scholars) met in two virtual sessions in November 2022 to introduce their work and brainstorm ideas and approaches as the project grows. As envisioned, the project will entail both scholarly and public-facing engagements. The former will include academic conferences, working group discussions and writing residences, while the later will include a comprehensive website that will serve as a clearinghouse for multimedia resources designed to inform and engage the scholarly community, educational professionals, and the broad public, including a podcast program, an online sourcebook collecting translations of speeches, documents and articles and an opinion blog. The group will meet again virtually in January 2023 to formally launch, and will hold virtual meetings throughout 2023 before convening in person in summer 2023, possibly in Beirut in coordination with the IAP.
- ***InterAsian Legalities*** – working closely with Dr. Jeremy Kingsley (future IAP partner through the University of Melbourne) and Maitrii Aung-Thwin of the National University of Singapore (IAP partner), the IAP will support an upcoming workshop that will consider the contemporary realities and historical foundations that legal systems and cultures are built upon in Asia (January 12-13, 2023). For additional info, see: https://ari.nus.edu.sg/events/interasian-legalities/

❖ **Growth of IAP Network** – New partners and potential partners include: University of Exeter, Max-Planck-Halle, University of Northwestern Qatar, Arizona State University and the Melbourne Law School at the University of Melbourne. The IAP has had conversations with counter-parties at all institutions, and is in the process of finalizing MOUs.

❖ **Possibilities of New Funding**

- Initial proposal submitted to Carnegie Corporation of New York by Professor Prasenjit Duara through the Global Asia Institute at Duke University (IAP partner) to fund research project focused on Asia beyond Bipolarity. This project seeks to explore range of critical interdependencies and security issues across Asian expanse outside of the US-China bi-polar configuration and reimagine multilateral approaches to global challenges.

- Initial proposal submitted to Carnegie Corporation of New York through the University of Melbourne (future IAP partner) to fund research project focused on fluid approaches to global governance and new forms of legal relationships emerging through multilateral international arrangements.

Lessons Learnt and Next Steps

Looking ahead, the IAP under ACSS leadership will formalize all pending partnership and pursue additional funding opportunities, all while building on the dense scholarly networks that the IAP brings to these projects. Prospective activities will complement activities planned for the 2023-2024 academic years, which include a partners' Webinar Series and an InterAsia panel or roundtable held in conjunction with the Sixth ACSS Conference (May 2023). The IAP will also focus on the enhancement of transregional and transnational knowledge production and networking opportunities, building this priority into all future activities.

Middle East Institute at Columbia University, in collaboration with the Columbia Global Centers: Special Commission on Social Science Research in the Middle East and North Africa

This project is a collaboration between the Middle East Institute at Columbia University, the Political Science Department of the American University of Cairo, the Rabat Social Studies Institute, and the Arab Council for the Social Sciences. The project aims to improve the quality of social science research on, and in, the Middle East and North Africa (with a particular focus on the Arab Region) by establishing a Special Commission on Social Science Research in the Middle East and North Africa tasked with:

(a) identifying impediments—institutional, economic, political, sociological—to the conduct of social science research in the region today;

(b) proposing long-term strategies for addressing such impediments

(c) recommending mechanisms for greater co-operation among social science communities within and beyond the Arab Middle East and North Africa

(d) developing guidelines for the ethical conduct of research in and on communities under duress and in circumstances of disparate power relations;

(e) fostering shared perceptions of the value of social science research and of the circumstances that advance it, within the region and beyond.

Given the timing of the project, it has also devoted special attention to challenges of conducting ethical research under the extraordinary restrictions on mobility imposed by COVID-19.

The Principal Investigators on the project are Dr. Lisa Anderson, dean emerita, School of International and Public Affairs, and Faculty Associate, Middle East Institute, Columbia

University https://www.mei.columbia.edu/ and Dr. Saloua Zerhouni, professor of political science at Mohammed V University and president of the Rabat Social Studies Institute (RSSI), Rabat http://www.rssi-rabat.ma/rssi/. The Steering Committee consists of Dr. Lila Abu Lughod (Columbia University); Dr. Rabab El Mahdi (AUC); Dr. Sari Hanafi (AUB); Dr. Stéphane Lacroix (CERI/Sciences Po) and Dr. Seteney Shami (ACSS).

Over 2021, four Working groups had been established to work on different aspects of the issues identified. In addition, through a collaboration between Sari Hanafi (AUB) and the Grants and Fellowships Unit at the ACSS, research is being conducted on the life-cycle of researchers in the region. This provided insight into patterns of institutional strength and weakness as well as the career trajectories of individual researchers, and means of enhancing visibility of publications resulting from ACSS projects. A survey was sent to a sample of ACSS grantees and interviews around these issues were organized with them. In addition, a battery of questions was also added to the interview in which grantees were asked about their knowledge of research ethics, training received in this area as well as ethical practices in undertaking research. Dr. Hanafi is currently finalizing the analysis of his study.

In 2022, a number of virtual workshops were organized by the project in which Seteney Shami participated. In addition, an in-person workshop was organized in Amman, Jordan on July 28-30 in conjunction with a conference organized by the American Political Science Association entitled “New Landscapes in MENA Political Research”. Several sessions explored the ethical dimensions of data collection, publishing and dissemination.

Finally, two publications are underway from this project which will be completed in 2023. One is a special issue of the journal Global Perspectives (published by UC, Berkeley) and another is a special issue of Daedalus (Journal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences).

IV. OUTPUTS, DISSEMINATION AND ELECTRONIC PLATFORM

Through all the following activities, the number of outputs enabled by the ACSS or produced directly by it has been steadily growing as indicated in the following sections:

A. Online Activities

We continued to implement our strategic plan for the ACSS blog known as the Digest, which is the most dynamic part of our website. Over 2022, we sought to diversify the type of content featured, and increased our coverage of our own events and activities, especially in Arabic. Calls for applications and job opportunities have become regular posts, as more and more

organizations continue to contact us to circulate their calls. This has made the roundups of social science calls for the Arab region (published at the end of each month) a regular staple on our blog, shared on social media and with our mailing list. The expanded offerings of the Council have also led to more digital exposure: the ACSS website received on average over 5,000 visitors per month in the year 2022.
Website: www.theacss.org

Social Media

As our content has become more diversified (including coverage of activities, calls for job vacancies in the region, interviews with partners and grantees, and curated posts), we have been able to increase and also diversify our social media posts, thus increasing our online presence and profile. In 2022, our Facebook followers reached 41,000. We should note that this figure is reached without any paid boosts.
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/theacss

With respect to Twitter, our followers have continued to grow. The year 2022 saw an increase from roughly 3,900 in January 2022 to 4,150 by December 2022. This means that more people are finding value in our tweets and following our account.
Twitter: Acss_org

In 2022, the ACSS became active on Instagram in order to reach a more diverse and younger audience than those active on Facebook and Twitter. In a short period, we have reached 500 followers.
Instagram: @ACSS

We are also increasing our presence on YouTube, as we currently have 47 videos (up from 39 in 2021) on the platform. The videos include lectures, panel discussions, webinars, interviews and short documentaries. There has been a 25% increase in subscribers from 800 (in 2021) to 1000 in 2022.
YouTube: Arab Council for the Social Sciences

Newsletter

Designed to help us keep our community of researchers updated on our activities and the ways in which they can take part in them, the newsletter highlights the major activities of the preceding period, including grantee selections as well as publications by grantees and members. "ACSS in its 10th Year" was a special issue published in 2022 that showcased all our activities that highlighted our 10th anniversary, including our webinar series that took place on the 10th of each month. The Newsletter also provides heads-up for open calls and events that

will take place in the following months. Much like our blog and social media posts, the newsletter resulted in several mailing list subscribers contacting us for help to circulate calls.

ACSS in its 10th year:
https://us11.campaign-archive.com/?u=8834e9808ae436f2cecee5311&id=1571d6a191

B. Print Activities and E-Publications

Working Papers

Our call for Working Paper submissions remained open throughout 2022. Further to a decision by the Board of Trustees Publications Committee and the Secretariat to make the submission of a working paper a grant requirement for grantees in the Early Career Fellows Program and the ACSS-FMSH Short-Term Postdoctoral Mobility Fellowships, grantees started submitting their works as they completed their grants. To enhance the quality and reputation of the working papers, another round of internal review was added before publishing. In 2022, eight papers were submitted and four were published: Two papers in English (paper 1, paper 2), and two papers in French (paper 1, paper 2).

Occasional Publication

Ethnographic Diaries Publication/Newspaper:

In April 2022, the ACSS published a new Publication/Newspaper in collaboration with *Rusted Radishes: Beirut Literary and Art Journal*. This publication titled "Ethnographic Diaries: Capturing the Everyday in Crisis" is produced by the ACSS working group on "Ethnography and Knowledge in the Arab Region".

"Ethnographic Diaries" is a true embodiment of ACSS mission as an institution. It is a collaborative project that did not only allow the researchers to network effectively and share knowledge, skills and experience, but also encouraged interdisciplinary research and built a community of 12 researchers from different disciplinary backgrounds (contributors to the publication included anthropologists, journalists, urbanists and artists among others).

- To access the Publication/Newspaper:
http://www.theacss.org/uploads/cke_documents/Ethnographic-Diaries-Digital.pdf

- To read the full Diaries: Ethnographic Diaries | مدونات إثنوغرافية - Rusted Radishes

ETHNOGRAPHIC DIARIES

CAPTURING THE EVERYDAY IN CRISIS

PREFACE

INTRODUCTION

MEET THE TEAM

Podcast:

In addition to the print publication, the ACSS produced a podcast that contains a selection of diary entries. The selection comprises only a portion of the wealth of entries from our writers, written in English and Arabic, within the "Ethnographic Diaries: Capturing the Everyday in Crisis" project.

This podcast is one of two audio files. The first one contains a selection of texts originally written in English, and the other, contains a different selection of texts written in Arabic.

Please see: http://www.theacss.org/pages/Ethnographic_Diaries_Podcasts

Fourth Research Forum Booklet

In June 2022, the fourth Research Forum was held in Beirut. For this event, a booklet was produced and published electronically with a QR code. The booklet included panels and roundtables abstracts, as well as speakers' bios and other relevant materials.

E-Publications

New Regionalisms Working papers:

The "New Regionalisms" working group, coordinated by Dr. Adam Hanieh, organized a workshop on March 27, 2021 that was attended by 20 invited participants from the Middle East, North America, Europe, and Asia. The aim of the workshop was to discuss themes raised by Hanieh's working paper on 'Space, Scale, and Region: Thinking Through the New Dynamics of the Middle East'. A total of 14 working papers from the March workshop were published on the Beirut Forum Platform in 2022 after been reviewed, copyedited and designed in a unified template (See New Regionalisms Working Group above).

Lessons Learnt and Looking Forward

Our aim at the ACSS is to reach a wider and more diverse audience. Towards that goal, we have created the ACSS Instagram account that targets in particular the younger generations of social scientists and in a short time, we have reached 500 followers. We also increased the capacity of our Mailchimp account, which is our mailing list resource, to be able to reach more people.

Moreover, our monthly roundup has been a useful resource for social scientists in the Arab region to locate in one place the different activities (calls, vacancies, workshops, trainings, conferences, new articles, etc.) happening in/on the region. In general, our efforts to expand and diversify our audience have been reciprocated by the latter's visible expression of a growing interest in our work and the value they attach to the high-quality content that we provide. This is evidenced by the positive responses we have been receiving through our online

communications tools and which, in turn, is helping strengthen the position of the ACSS as a reference and resource for the social scientists in the Arab region.

We expect 2023 to witness an even larger number of ACSS publications. We are working on a plan for establishing publishing partnerships and there will be more focus on outreach through a unified dissemination strategy that will involve the ACSS secretariat, BoT, subcommittees, focal points and partners.

V. FINAL REMARKS AND LOOKING FORWARD

As indicated above, the year 2022 saw many institutional and programmatic highlights which the ACSS will continue to cultivate, but also included challenges that have long-term implications for the institution and its mission. The ACSS 2030 Strategy is a well thought out document that has benefitted from the input and feedback of numerous and profound consultations with BoT, staff members and other colleagues outside the ACSS. It has been produced at a critical time in the life of our region, wrought by crises, conflict and economic crises and it is sensitive to the position of the ACSS as an actor in this critical regional context, and one that has to respond to emerging regional challenges that affect the status and development of social sciences. This position has significant institutional and programmatic implications that push us to ensure resilient and sustainable institutional arrangements on one hand, and find the best ways to fulfil our mission of helping regional researchers study and analyze emerging issues, on the other.

Two of the new working groups at the ACSS – on violence and on safeguarding knowledge – speak directly to the regional situation at the present time. But as we dedicate our efforts to studying different aspects of the crisis, we also have our eyes on maintaining the role of ACSS as a resource for researchers and scholars in the region. Our pioneer work on ethics, the leading work of the ASSM and the numerous projects/programs we have lined up for the near future all speak for our commitment to programmatic expansion and to staying the course of becoming an anchor institution in the region.

Convening the Research Forum in Beirut in person was among the achievements of 2022. We celebrated going back to normalcy after the long interruption caused by COVID by inviting and receiving the largest number of grantees, fellows, selection/advisory committee and BoT members in the life of our research forums. We were also pleased to have with us Dr. Lisa Roman from Sida, representing our main donor institution, as well as colleagues from the FMSH. The meticulous organization of the event, constructive dynamics of interaction among researchers, and quality of projects were all highly appreciated as evidenced by responses to the evaluation we received.

The ASSM has been living up to our expectations as the flagship program at the ACSS that represents our main contribution to understanding the infrastructures of academic institutions, and our way of understanding developments in social sciences in the Arab region. After some delays, final touches are now being made on the ASSR3 while strides have been taken place with ASSR4. Both reports will come to life soon in 2023. On the training front, the ASSM is gradually but surely becoming the training arm of the ACSS; the pioneer workshops the ASSM has been organizing on data sharing and management have been receiving visible traction from regional institutions and individuals. Our training workshops are recognized for introducing communities of researchers, and individuals working on data in different capacities to this crucial area of work that is not well known in our region.

Grants and fellowships continue to offer six programs of research grants and fellowships and we are now seeking to document their outputs and publications (see Appendix 12: Publications by grantees and fellows- 2022). As indicated earlier, we have decided to use gap years in funding to reflect on our achievements and the efficacy and impact of the programs we offer. Moreover, and in line with the ACSS orientation towards opening up to institutions, several of our research programs have been encouraging applications from institutions and collectives and in the coming period we plan to devote our small grants program – a flexible funding modality with small funds for different activities and changing themes – to institutions in our region. Similarly, our membership base is also expanding in significant ways to regional institutions (in addition to individuals) and as indicated above, a new program has been put in place to provide small grants to address institutional needs.

As indicated above, the NewGen program has established its identity as the ACSS modality for nurturing a pipeline of young social scientists. As we explore new funding for the program, we will continue to pursue our plans to expand into new countries and universities in the Arab region. During the May 2023 ACSS conference we have programmed a number of activities to make the program more visible to the larger community of researchers and scholars including a session with presidents of participating universities.

As explained in this report, 2022 has been a challenging year in that a number of grants have come to an end and we are in the process of renewing them and also seeking grants for new areas of work and programs. As we continue to add new activities in response to persistent and emerging regional needs, we have succeeded in diversifying our institutional bases and structures by opening new entities in Jordan and the US. This will eventually mean new staff recruitments and a surge in running and programmatic costs. New sources of funds will need to be secured, including possibly an endowment. We also have plans to draw on our larger community of alumni of grantees, and friends of the ACSS who can help us with our new

endeavors to ensure both a smooth running of our operations and support to our ideas for new programs and institutional growth.

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ACSS 2030

Strategic Directions in Uncertain Times

As approved by the ACSS Board of Trustees on January 24, 2023

المجلس العربي للعلوم الاجتماعية
Arab Council for the Social Sciences
Conseil Arabe pour les Sciences Sociales

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I. Introduction

In 2021, ACSS celebrated its 10th year anniversary. The highlights of the anniversary year were a series of 10 webinars and other online seminars, which reached an audience of around 4500 collectively, and the 5th ACSS conference, which gathered 160 researchers in-person in three cities (Casablanca, Cairo and Beirut) interspersed with online seminars and roundtables that reached 600 participants virtually. In 2022, the ACSS reconvened its Research Forum for its grantees and their mentors, bringing together over 100 people in Beirut. Together with its regular programs of grants and fellowships, working groups, collaborative projects and more, the past years clearly expressed the solid progress that the ACSS had made since its establishment in 2011 and the central position it now holds in promoting and supporting research and higher education in the region.

Yet all this took place in somber and challenging contexts, including Lebanon's financial, political and banking crisis following an aborted popular uprising in fall 2019, similar unrest and economic recession across the region, in addition to the ravages wrought by the Covid 19 pandemic. The year 2022 saw the relative retreat of the pandemic, however Lebanon and the region continue to experience increased deterioration of contextual and infrastructural conditions. Most importantly, for the domain of ACSS, state responses to popular unrest has led to a continual shrinking of the space for free speech, the right to research and critical knowledge production across the region.

This strategy document seeks to chart the course for the continued growth and increased impact of the ACSS for the years 2023- 2030. The strategy requires building in structural safeguards and flexibilities that will help the organization navigate the long-term uncertain times, all the while enhancing its role in supporting research communities and knowledge production in the Arab region.

The strategy is built around 2-year phases, and will be thoroughly reviewed biennially by the Board of Trustees and Secretariat to take into account changing contextual circumstances.

II. Preparatory Steps

The 2030 strategy was developed through several stages as follows:

A. Interim Strategy 2021-2022

In 2020, the ACSS Board of Trustees decided to develop an interim two-year strategy to act as a bridge between the previous five-year strategy (2016-2020) and this current eight-year strategy (2023-2030). This formulation was adopted by the Board of Trustees given the upheaval and uncertainties of the times, which made it impractical to set firm targets and goals. Instead, the interim strategy was a framework to help the ACSS navigate and learn from the immediate crises and also plan for incorporating the needed agility and flexibility into its long-term planning.

The interim strategy assessed the performance of the ACSS through the 2016-2020 strategy, and the impact of the suspension of many of the planned activities for 2020 due to the pandemic.

the interim Strategy was organized around:

i. Articulating and enhancing what we do best:

- Model of governance for regional organizations (effective leadership, accountability, transparency)
- Institutional culture (flexibility, nimbleness, responsiveness)
- Program development (innovating thematic priorities, new modalities, new constituents)
- Program management (independent committee structure, regular consultation, strong support to researchers)
- Convening, dissemination, publication (intensive networking, diverse outlets, multilingualism, outreach to different audiences)

ii. Identifying new operational and programmatic tracks for institutional adaptation in light of new conditions, in order to reduce and manage uncertainty for the institution and for grantees, research affiliates and partners:

- Institutional Strengthening and Governance
- Financial Sustainability
- New Modalities and Mechanisms
- Institutional Alliances and Networks

The results of these reflections and plans, which were developed through internal and external consultations (with staff, Board, members, external evaluators, donors and partners) are all incorporated in the 2030 Strategy.

Most importantly, the interim strategy prioritized finding alternatives for ACSS bank accounts in order to reduce or eliminate dependence on the banking system in Lebanon. After much investigation, it became clear that the only way to establish bank accounts in any country was by establishing a branch or an affiliate legally registered in that country.

The important structural achievements of the past two years were the legal establishment of an ACSS branch and bank account in Jordan, as well as the founding of an affiliate organization and bank account in the United States. These two important steps bolster the administrative and financial security of the ACSS, but also require important changes in governance, operations and staffing all of which have budgetary and institutional implications.

B. External Evaluation January - May 2021

By request and with support from Sida, the ACSS commissioned an external evaluation in the first half of 2021. The goal of the evaluation was to provide general and specific recommendations that would inform the ACSS future strategy. While presenting a critical overview of all ACSS programs, the evaluation focused primarily on the assessment of the Arab Social Science Monitor (ASSM), the New Generation program, in addition to the ACSS institutional capacity and development, and communications and publications.

The evaluators undertook a thorough study surveying and interviewing a number of grantees and fellows, donors, members of working groups, members of the BoT and sub-committees as well as staff. The result was a 60-page report followed by 40 pages of annexes and included a number of general and specific recommendations.

Several events were organized to discuss the evaluation findings in order to feed them into the crafting of the 2030 Strategy. The first was with the BoT on 30 June 2021, the second with representatives of the ACSS donor organizations on 21 October 2021 and the third with the General Assembly on 22 December 2021. The Board of Trustees sub-committees also reviewed the recommendations, each sub-committee within its own jurisdiction, to come up with a plan of action for the ACSS to implement over the coming years. Finally, staff discussions within each unit and across the organization provided important input into the various program areas.

C. Consultations and Discussions

Additional internal and external discussions helped clarify the ideas, options and best practices that ACSS needed to incorporate into its 2030 Strategy. These included:

- BoT discussions in January 2022 and June 2022 evaluated the progress of the interim strategy as well as identifying the long-term goals.
- BoT sub-committees on Administration and Finance, on Membership, on Publications and on Academic Freedom all discussed specific targets and goals within the scope of their responsibilities.
- Internal discussions and learning through staff meetings evaluated current performance and generated visions for the long-term.
- Discussions through individual or small-group meetings with current ACSS donors and with sister institutions as well as through the annual Partners and Donors meeting on 23 June 2021 helped clarify possibilities as well as aspirations.
- BoT review and approval of the 2023 Strategy took place on January 24, 2023.

The evaluation reviewed achievements of the 2016-2020 strategy, delineating areas of strengths and weaknesses, and providing insights and lessons learnt, and presenting general and specific recommendations.

III. Strategy 2030

The uncertainties facing the region have had direct implications on ACSS activities, constituents and operations. In Lebanon, these included everyday security concerns given deteriorating economic and political conditions as well as the massive explosion in the Beirut port. In addition, there were concerns with the financial impediments to receiving and disbursing funds, the deteriorating infrastructure (electricity, transport, internet) and the health and wellbeing of the staff. These factors and contexts make it important to rethink, for the long term, ACSS structures, finances, networks, modalities, activities and programs.

However, it is important to emphasize that the fundamental objectives, aims and goals of the ACSS remain largely the same and bear repeating. These objectives provide the overall structure for the work and growth of the ACSS. They also serve as a framework and tool for the internal Monitoring and Evaluation of the programs and for the understanding of specific and overall impact. With the expansion in programs, the ACSS has reached a stage where it is important to assess their effectiveness and contribution to the improvement of individual and institutional capacities in the region.

The ACSS objectives are as follows:

Overall Objective

To identify and address the needs of social science communities in the Arab region, increase production of high-quality social science and humanities research as well as engage in regional, cross-regional and global collaborations and networking.

Specific Objectives

1. To improve and expand production and uptake of social science research to address regional issues;

2. To empower a new generation of social scientists integrated into regional and global networks;

3. To achieve institutionalization of ACSS as a credible recognized network of researchers and research institutions.

In planning for, and meeting, these objectives, the ACSS 2030 Strategy is divided into three parts: the vision, the components and the timeline. This is followed by the specific targets for the first 2-year phase (2023-2024)

A. ACSS 2030: The Vision

The major targets of the ACSS 2030 strategy in terms of structure, functions, niche and impact are listed below. This vision assumes that, by 2030, ACSS will have reached its full growth as an institution, such that programs and specific elements would continue to be consolidated and improved but there would not be further substantial or major institutional development.

- ACSS reaches maximal institutional growth for efficient administration as well as regional representation and outreach (with appropriately staffed HQ, branches, focal points, committee structure)
- The Arab Social Science Monitor becomes a regional resource center and full-fledged observatory of the state of Higher Education and Social Science research.
- ACSS becomes the go-to source for Ethics in Social Science Research. This includes the establishment of an Ethics Review Board and Electronic Platform
- ACSS becomes a major advocate

for, and example of, open access to publications and research data

• ACSS expands its programming in order to provide support for regional researchers at every career stage, while retaining its focus on the emergent generation

• The ACSS Academy and other training/ mentoring activities, such as summer institutes, are consolidated and provide innovative pedagogical resources for alternative and supplementary social science education

• ACSS publications provide regular, high quality dissemination outlets for different audiences

• ACSS becomes an anchor, an arena of stability, a safe and inclusive space for regional researchers in critical times

B. ACSS 2030: Components

The goals of this ambitious vision can be organized under four components or rubrics:

Institutional Strengthening and Governance:

- Reorganizing ACSS as an institution able to effectively negotiate contexts of crisis through sound Risk Management plans and procedures, structural diversification to help spread financial and programmatic risk (branches, subsidiaries, partnerships), and viable leadership transition processes.
- Establishing a secure and sustainable institutional and financial structure thus fulfilling ACSS obligations to grantees and various constituents through timely review and selection of grants, disbursement of payments and organization of supportive activities and events (whether online or in-person).
- Establishing branches and new structures and affiliates, which may require new staff and country 'boards' or consultants, and expansion as well as better integration of Country Focal Points.
- Developing and implementing an integrated HR and staffing plan to achieve full utilization of internal capacities, as well as strengthening agility, team work and cross-program collaboration.
- Strengthening the Monitoring and Evaluation function at the ACSS and integrating the tools used (Results Based Management Logframe, annual grantee survey, event evaluation forms) into the planning of new programs and activities. Central to this endeavor is thinking through the issue of "impact" of the ACSS on individuals, institutions and knowledge production generally.
- Strengthening the ACSS community, through strategic communications as well as increased mechanisms for consultation and feedback on regional trends and needs with individual and institutional members, grantees and partners. This would include an ACSS "Alumni" network (of ex-grantees), country convenings, annual general convenings, the biennial General Assembly and periodic focus group meetings as means of collaboration and joint work.

Financial Sustainability:

- Planning for increased overheads and indirect costs for premises, banking, legal and staff costs.
- Anticipating potential changes in donor priorities and creating annual scenarios for best-case and worst-case situations, with the aim of maintaining continuity for core mission and siganture programs.
- Planning for true cost recovery and establishing a Capital Reserves fund

through negotiations with current long-term donors.

- Launching an endowment drive, including establishing a "Friends of the ACSS" group and convening and expansion of the annual "Partners and Donors Forum".
- Initiating ACSS 'services' that can recover costs by providing institutions with training and consultation (for example, in grants management, research ethics, data management etc.).

Institutional Alliances and Networks (ACSS as a network of networks):

- Enhancing regional and international collaborations though co-organizing research, convening and dissemination as well as participation in various **South-South Forums**
- Expanding the **Partners and Donors Annual Forum** to explore regional and global challenges in Higher Education and Social Research
- Instituting the **Knowledge Connections Forum** to promote the circulation and exchange of knowledge and research between academia, civil society, public and private sectors.
- Exploring the possibility of a periodic **Humanities in the Arab Region Forum** (in partnership with UNESCO) to support the humanities disciplines in academia and the public sphere
- Instituting a regular **Ethics in Research Forum** to develop and enhance a culture of research ethics among individuals and institutions and produce shared resources and training opportunities
- Expanding the **ACSS Universities Network** to encourage sharing of pedagogical resources, enhancement of social science and humanities degree and course offerings and providing opportunities for faculty and student mobility
- Establishing a **Network of Regional Research Organizations** that can collaborate in exchange of information and expertise, development of joint resources for programming and institutional strengthening and exploring joint programming and fundraising

Programmatic Modalities and Mechanisms:

Table 1 below lays out the ways in which various programs and activities of the ACSS further its mission through eight major pillars, which constitute the ACSS "Mission in Action." It is important to note that most programs and activities contribute to more than one pillar and thus can be found in more than one column.

Research

A primary function of the ACSS is to support the production of new knowledge through offering grants and fellowships and through working groups and special initiatives. The ACSS focal points in Palestine and Algeria also develop their own research (as well as training) activities. The themes addressed through these modalities change over time, signaling the commitment of the ACSS to a broad range of disciplines and a wide scope of themes.

Thematic foci address regional issues and challenges of importance not only for the development of social sciences and humanities disciplines, but also for social transformation, development, advocacy and policy making.

They all aspire to refine or open new research agendas, shape new fields of inquiry and encourage various forms of research uptake. Moving forward, the ACSS will develop new research programming as well as build in more time for evaluation, synthesis and dissemination of the research produced through various programs. In addition, a series of activities will

be organized to explore different aspects of producing knowledge on/in crisis, including the impact of crises on knowledge institutions, thus conceptualizing "the crisis" not as a momentary or passing situation – but as ongoing and multiple. In this way "Polycrisis" itself becomes an object of analysis and knowledge production but also is understood as reshaping processes of knowledge production in fundamental ways.

Research Infrastructures

The problems facing researchers, and especially junior researchers in the region, are not only the lack of funding and research opportunities but are intimately tied up with the lack of research infrastructures. Universities and national research centers are increasingly under-resourced and tightly controlled.

> Researchers in the region are constrained due to the lack of open and free access to libraries, archives, research data and circulation of research and findings.

The ACSS seeks to become a repository of such information and data through expansion of the Arab Social Science Monitor and the Dataverse into a regional Resource Center. In addition, it will be an advocate for best institutional practices in these areas across the region. Finally, the ACSS aspires to create productive spaces for research collaboration and innovation through various grants programs and establishing an Institute for Advanced Study. The proposed Institute will provide short-term residential fellowships as well as create non-residential collaboration opportunities, with the aim of building partnerships with other Institutes for Advanced Study globally.

New Generation

> Integral to the ACSS mission is the growth of a new generation of scholars who are equipped with the tools for critical thinking and research and who are networked regionally and globally.

This is addressed through the flagship NewGen fellowship program currently underway (which includes training workshops and online courses) as well as through ongoing programs (such as the New Paradigms Factory Program) and activities, including those organized by the ACSS Focal Points. All these will be further developed and augmented in future years with new modalities and opportunities. This will include outreach to high school, developing opportunities for research internships for students, and further development of the summer institutes organized by Working Groups as well as the biennial ACSS Academy.

Collaborations

The ACSS is currently engaged in robust South-South collaborations with CODESRIA, CLACSO and the InterAsia Partnership. It also often collaborates with regional organizations and universities in research (for example the MPK Working Groups) and in planning and organizing research and training events. In addition, it participates in, and contributes to, global forums. This is an area of great importance and growth for the ACSS and will fundamentally expand the structure of opportunities currently available to researchers based in the region.

> Collaborative projects are central to the production of comparative and cross-regional research and to the participation in global dialogues.

Institutional Support

The ACSS started with a focus on individual researchers, which gradually grew over the years to include support for institutions – including research teams, informal collectives, NGOs, research centers and universities. This is currently taking place through several grants programs as well as the NewGen Fellowship program. The modalities for such institutional support will expand in both small and large ways: through small grants for institutional members of the ACSS to be used for institutional strengthening, through expanded research funding for institutions and through medium and large-scale training for institutions in Data Management as well as in Research Ethics.

The Working Group on “Safeguarding Knowledge” will also examine the constraints and impediments to social science research for both individuals and institutions.

Convenings

Despite the virtual turn, accelerated by the pandemic, and the benefits brought by such digital connections, it is the case that the majority of researchers in the region have few opportunities for mobility and networking outside their narrow circles

> In so many ACSS activities, participants express their joy at being able to visit another country in the region or participate in regional conferences.

Thus, while attentive to carbon footprints and the convenience of online meetings, the ACSS will continue to hold in-person meetings when networking is a major goal of the program at hand. The three major in-person convenings include the Conference, the Research Forum and the Academy and these will continue to expand and be refined and developed. Other ongoing convenings include the Annual Lecture Series and various periodic forums with a variety of partners and stakeholders in knowledge production.

Publication and Dissemination

The ability of the ACSS to reach a broad and varied set of audiences has been steadily growing, especially with its higher visibility on online platforms (social media, YouTube etc.)

> The next years will see a strengthening of the ACSS ongoing publications and dissemination activities

This will include publishing collaborations with prestigious presses in the region, and with journals and electronic platforms in all three working languages of the ACSS: Arabic, English and French. as well as the rethinking of audiences and developing communication and dissemination outlets in creative ways (short publications/blogs/interviews/conversations/podcasts etc.).

Membership and Outreach

> The membership of the ACSS is the governing body of the institution as well as an important focus of its work.

While all ACSS activities and opportunities (including grants) are open to all and not restricted to members, the ACSS will give special attention in the coming phase to strengthening its communication channels with the membership and the gradual increase of targeted opportunities that will help network the ACSS membership into an effective scholarly community. The ACSS Focal Points wil play an important role in this regard.

TABLE 1: Mission in Action

Research Support	Research Infrastructures	New Generation	Collaboration	Institutional Support	Convenings	Publication & Dissemination	Membership & Outreach
F+G: RGP	ASSM	NewGen Fellowship Program	South-South HE-CLACSO	F+G: SGP	General Assembly	Qiraat	General Assembly
F+G: ECFP	Arab Public Data Initiative: Dataverse	Incubation (High Schools) (NEW 2024)	South-South Sahel – CODESRIA (NEW 2024)	F+G: RGP	Conference	Working Papers	Members Individual travel grants
F+G: SGP	Data Management and Sharing	Internships (NEW 2024)	South-South InterAsia Partnership	Membership institutional grants	Research Forum	Occasional Publications	Members Institutional grants
F+G: STMP	Research Ethics Initiative	ACSS Academy	MPK (with UCDAR)	WG: Safeguarding Knowledge	Annual Lecture Series	Co-Publishing with journals and publishers	Focal Point member and grantee activities
F+G: SCG - Scholars Collaborative Grants (NEW 2023)	WG: Safeguarding Knowledge	WG Summer Institutes	Joint Workshops & Conferences	Training on Data management and sharing	Partners and Donors Forum	Social Media	Jordan Branch activities
F+G: NPF	Membership in International Research Data Organizations	F+G: NPF	Joint Trainings	NewGen Fellowship Program	Knowledge Connections Forum (NEW 2024)	Website	Knowledge Connections Forum (NEW 2024)
F+G: Sahel (joint with CODESRIA) NEW 2024	Network of Regional Research Organizations (NEW 2025)	F+G: ECFP		Research Ethics Initiative	Ethics in Research Forum (NEW 2024)	Digital outputs	Partners & Donors Forum
F+G: New Cross-Regional grants Program (NEW 2027)	ACSS Universities Forum (NEW 2023)	Online Courses			Humanities Forum (NEW 2025)	Webinars	Ethics in Research Forum (NEW 2024)
F+G: Scholar Research Exchange Program (2025)	Institute for Advanced Study (NEW 2026)	Training Workshops			ACSS Universities Forum (NEW 2023)		ACSS Universities Forum (NEW 2023)
WG: CSS	North American Arab Council for the Soxial Sciences (NAACSS)	Focal Point Training Activities					
WG: EKWG							
WG: NR							
WG: Polycrisis							

Research Support	Research Infrastructures	New Generation	Joint Projects (incl. South-South)	Institutional Support	Convenings	Publication & Dissemination	Membership & Outreach
WG: Safeguarding Knowledge							
WG: Critical Humanities							
WG: MPK							
WG: Higher Education (with CLACSO)							
WG: New Research agendas on Gender (NEW 2024)	Gendering the Archive (with AUB)						
WG: Research on the Arts (With AFAC)							
WG: on theme tbd (NEW 2027)							
Focal Point Research activities							
Institute for Advanced Study (2026)							

C. ACSS 2020: Phases and Timeline

Table 2 presents the 8-year plan for the development of programs and activities of the ACSS. This includes a balance between continuing modalities and programs and the introduction of new areas and activities. The first two years (2023-2024) are cautious, due to the continuing financial uncertainties and the need to consolidate the new structures (branches and affiliates) recently established. Importantly, the plan builds space for thoughtful evaluation and synthesis between cycles of a program, when themes are changed. If new funding opportunities arise, even if these necessitate a change in pace or in thematic direction, the ACSS will be open to these new opportunities as long as they remain within the parameters of the strategy and existing or planned programs.

Note: For the sake of clarity, in Table 2, unlike Table 1, programs and activities are only mentioned once under one heading activity or modality. On the other hand Collaboration and Institutional Support are folded into other categories since these are realized through programs listed under Research, Research Infrastructure and New Generation.

TABLE 2: ACSS 2030 Strategy: Programs and Activities by year

Activity or Modality	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Research								
RGP - Research Grants Program		**EVALUATION** and new call end of August	YES	YES	YES	**EVALUATION** and new call end of August	YES	YES
ECFP - Early Career Fellowships Program	YES	YES	**EVALUATION**	YES	YES	YES	**EVALUATION**	YES
SGP - Small Grants Program – 2 cycles per year	YES	YES	YES	**EVALUATION**	YES	YES	YES	**EVALUATION**
STMP - Short term mobility grants (joint program with FMSH)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Scholars Collaborative Grants **NEW!**	YES	YES	YES – **PLANNING** for an Institute for Advanced Study (below)					
Sahel - Reimagining the Sahel (joint program with CODESRIA) **NEW!**	**PLANNING**	YES	YES	YES	YES + **EVALUATION**			
New Cross-Regional grants program starting in 2027 **NEW!**					YES	YES	YES	YES + **EVALUATION**
Scholars Research Exchange Program starting 2025 **NEW!**			YES	YES	YES	YES + **EVALUATION**	YES	YES
CSS - Working Group on Critical Security Studies	YES	YES	**CONSOLIDATION OF QATAR HUB**					
EKWG - Working Group on Ethnography as Knowledge	YES	YES	YES					
NR - Working Group on New Regionalisms	**WIND DOWN** and publications							

Activity or Modality	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Working Group on Contexts of Violence (shifts into POLYCRISIS WG) **NEW!**	YES	YES	YES					
Working Group on Higher Education– joint with CLACSO and new WG towards end of 2023 **NEW!**	YES	YES	YES	YES	**WIND DOWN**			
Working Group on Research on the Arts	Publications and fold into Critical Humanities							
Working Group on Safeguarding Knowledge	YES	YES – leads into new institutional modalities						
Working Group on new topic starting in 2027 **NEW!**					YES	YES	YES	
Gender Oral History Archive (joint with AUB)	YES – Fold into Critical Humanities							
New Research Agendas on Gender – shifts into Gender WG **NEW!**	**PLANNING**	YES	YES	YES				
Mapping Production of Knowledge on Women and Gender (joint with UCDAR)	YES							
Critical Humanities Initiative (Archives; Arts; Decolonial)	YES	YES	YES	YES				
Institute for Advanced Study **NEW!**			**PLANNING**	**LAUNCH**	YES	YES	YES	YES
Research Infrastructures								
ASSM and Arab Public Data Initiative (Dataverse)	YES	YES	YES **PLANNING FOR SCALING UP TOWARDS A REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTER**	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Activity or Modality	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Data Management and Sharing Trainings	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Research Ethics Initiative	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Membership in International Research Data Organizations	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Network of Regional Research Organizations **NEW!**	**PLANNING**	**PLANNING**	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Empowering a New Generation								
NewGen Fellowship Program	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
NPF - New Paradigms Factory	**YES EVALUATION**	YES	YES	YES	**YES EVALUA-TION**	YES	YES	YES
Summer Institutes by WGs		YES		YES		YES		YES
Training Workshops/ Online Courses/ Internships	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Biennial ACSS Academy		YES		YES		YES		YES
Convenings and Networking								
Biennial Conference April/May	YES		YES		YES		YES	
Biennial Research Forum April/May		YES		YES		YES		YES
Biennial General Assembly Meetings April/May	YES		YES		YES		YES	
Annual Lecture Series November	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Partners and Donors Forum April/May (annually – if conference year then in conjunction with conference, otherwise on zoom)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Activity or Modality	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Knowledge Connections Meetings November **NEW!**		YES		YES		YES		YES
Ethics in Research Forum **NEW!**		YES		YES		YES		YES
Arab Humanities Forum – collabortive with other institutions (e.g. UNESCO and Insaniyat), moves from country to country – ACSS takes the lead on the first one. **NEW!**	**PLANNING**	**PLANNING**	YES			YES		
ACSS Universities Forum **NEW!**	YES		YES		YES		YES	
Publications and Dissemination								
Publications (Working Papers, Qiraat, Occasional Publications)	YES – need a communica-tions strategy consultant	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Website, Social Media & You-Tube channel	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Digital Outputs	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Webinars	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Membership and Outreach								
Membership Travel Grants / 4 cycles per year	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Membership Institutional Grants/ 4 cycles per year **NEW!**	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Focal Point membership activities	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Jordan Branch activities	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

IV. Targets for 2023-2024

Table 3 below shows the activities in the two years of focus (2023-2024) under the four rubrics, by staff member responsibility. In January every two years, the Board of Trustees will review performance on the targets of the earlier phase and detail the targets of the coming two years.

> This will enable the ACSS to remain agile and responsive to external and contextual changes in the region and in the funding landscape.

Institutional Strengthening and Governance

Activity	2023	2024	Responsibility
Finalization of Risk Management Plan	X		DG/AD/HR
Planning for Leadership Transitions		X	DG/AD/BoT
Full operationalization of branches and affiliates	X		DG/Finance
Integrated HR Plan	X		DG/AD/HR
Strengthening Monitoring and Evaluation Function	X	X	DG/AD/M+E Coordinator
Establishing ACSS Alumni network	X	X	AD/F+G Coordinator
Strengthening Strategic Communication		X	DG/AD/ Comms

Financial Sustainability

Activity	2023	2024	Responsibility
Strategic Budgeting and Cost Recovery planning	X		DG/Finance
Capital Reserves	X	X	DG/Finance
Establishing Friends of the ACSS	X	X	DG/BoT
Planning for Endowment	X		DG/Finance/ Legal Counsel
ACSS Services		X	DG/AD/ASSM

Institutional Alliances and Networks

Activity	2023	2024	Responsibility
South-South collaborations	X	X	DG/AD
Knowledge Connections Forum		X	DG/AD
Ethics in Research Forum		X	DG/AD
ACSS Universities Network	X		DG/AD
Planning for Network of Regional Research Organizations		X	DG/AD

Programmatic Modalities and Mechanisms

Activity	2023	2024	Responsibility
Scholars Collaborative Grants	X	X	DG/AD/F+G Coordinator
Working Group on PolyCrisis	X	X	DG
Working Group on Higher Education	X	X	AD
Working Group on Safeguarding Knowledge	X	X	DG/AD
New Research Agendas on Gender		X	AD
SAHEL Program		X	DG/AD
Membership Institutional Grants	X		DG/BoT

V. Concluding Remarks

This Strategy guides the second decade of ACSS operations and growth. The original road map from 2009 and the five-year strategy of 2016-2020 helped the institution establish its niche, main functions and signature activities. They established the ACSS as a leading institution, with the required institutional capacity and financial sustainability for supporting and promoting research for social change, through grant making, assessment of the social science landscape, institutional partnerships and active communications activities. However, starting with 2020, the region and the ACSS home base in Lebanon has been rocked by instability and financial precarity. This required a phase of consolidation and shoring up organizational sustainability, which was addressed by the Interim Strategy 2021-2022.

The 2030 Strategy is a dynamic document that will be periodically reviewed and revised and is currently accompanied by a four-year budget. Both the narrative and financial planning will be thoroughly discussed and revised by the Board of Trustees every two years. The first two years of Strategy 2030 is characterized by some caution as we continue to work on the financial and administrative changes necessary to meet the challenges of these times and to bring back the funding base of the ACSS to secure levels. At the same time groundwork will be laid in these two years for programmatic and substantive growth and diversification.

We are optimistic that in 2025-6, ACSS will mark its 15th anniversary with successful and demonstrable impact on the production of new knowledge, the growth of a new generation of social scientists as well as the promotion of research for social transformation in the Arab region.

VI. List of Acronyms

ACSS
Arab Council for the Social Sciences

AD
Associate Director

ASSM
Arab Social Science Monitor
Permanent Observatory for the monitoring & evaluation of the state of Social Sciences in the region, producing biennial reports, policy briefs, & background papers. Also responsible for the ACSS Dataverse repository and providing training in data management and sharing.

AUB
American University of Beirut

BoT
Board of Trustees

CSS
Critical Security Studies
Collaborative & comparative research that challenges the dominant understanding of the Arab region as a threat to global security and provide an alternative critical approach to security studies that focuses on the production of insecurity.

DG
Director General

ECFP
Early Career Fellowship Program
Open call for applications for support for twelve months provided to junior scholars who are 1-3 years out of the PhD; fellows must be affiliated with a regional institution.

EKWG
Ethnography as Knowledge Working Group
Collaborative research on how ethnography can counter dominant regimes of knowledge about the Arab countries and produce a more nuanced

ethnographic understanding of the Arab region today.

F+G
Fellowships and Grants unit

HR
Human Resources

M+E
Monitoring and Evaluation function

MPK
Mapping Production of Knowledge on Women and Gender
Coordinating a regional network of universities to map the production and circulation of scholarly knowledge on women and gender in the Arab region since the 1970's and ways forward.

NAACSS
North American Arab Council for Social Sciences
An affiliate 501c3 organization incorporated in the United States

NewGen
New Generation Fellowship Program
Training, mentorship and online courses for a new generation of social scientists in collaboration with regional universities.

NPF New Paradigms Factory
Mentorship program for writing & advocacy targeting scholar/activists with an MA in the social sciences. The last three cycles focused on the theme "Gendered Resistance."

NR
New Regionalisms
Comparative research on new regional dynamics involving inter-state, sub-state and trans-state relations reconfiguring power, social and cultural relations to arrive at a better understanding of the relationships between the local, national, regional and global scales.

RGP
Research Grants Program
Open call for proposals for research under a broad theme, providing funding & support to individuals, teams, collectives and institutions. The last three cycles focused on the theme "Health, Livelihoods and Wellbeing"

SCG
Scholars Collaborative Grants:
Proposed new program to provide support to mid-career and senior scholars over two years to produce a major work on selected themes. Program will include short term residential stays in Lebanon or at a partner university or an Institute for Advanced study

SGP
Small Grants Program
Seed funds for travel grants, workshops, internships, & pilot research. Travel grants also available for ACSS members.

STMP
Short Term Mobility Grants Program
Funding for 2-3 months research stays for junior post-doctoral fellows, 1-6 years after the PHD. Currently, organized in collaboration with FMSH for research stays in France for archival or field research.

UCDAR
University of California, Davis Arab Region Consortium

WG
Working Group

Appendix 2 - Logframe

ACSS Results Based Management Logical Framework
January 2012 - December 2022

Format Date Revision: February 2023

Summary of Problem Statement: Insufficient knowledge production of high quality social sciences and humanities research in the Arab region that addresses the priority development challenges and inadequate engagement with such research building individual and institutional capacities and networks as well as bridging the gap between academia, policy and advocacy.
Overall Objective: To identify and address the needs of social science communities in the Arab region, increase production of high-quality social science and humanities research as well as engage in regional, cross-regional and global collaborations and networking.
Specific Objectives:
1. To improve and expand production and uptake of social science research to address regional issues;
2. To empower a new generation of social scientists integrated into regional and global networks;
3. To achieve institutionalization of ACSS as a credible recognized network of researchers and research institutions.

Outputs	Outcomes	Performance Indicator of Outcome	Key Outputs produced in performance period to obtain outcome	2012 (Baseline)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Specific Objective 1: Improve and expand production and use of social science research to address regional issues														
Conference	1.1 Increased diversification of regional issues in ACSS conferences	Increase in the number of countries/issues/region covered/addressed at the conferences	Conference	First Conference	NA	NA	18 countries, 8 regions (Asia, Arab Region, Global Region, GCC, Global North, Global South, Middle East, Latin America	N/A for 2016 as the ACSS Conference is Biennial	Cases from 14 Arab Countries – 4 Non-Arab Countries – 2 Sub regions (Gulf / North Africa)	Total of 40 sub-topics covered under three themes.	N/A for 2018 as the ACSS Conference is Biennial	257 applications from 20 countries, 4 Regions (Asia, America, Africa, Europe). 8 non Arab countries	220 applications from 34 countries, 15 from Arab region, others from America, Europe, Africa, Asia	212 from 30 countries (8 non Arab countries)	No Conference in 2022
Workshops, Grants, scholar exchange, conference, Research Forum, Academy, ASSM	1.2 Increased collaboration and other initiatives among grantees/ researchers as a result of ACSS activities/grants	Change in the number of joint projects, collaboration and initiatives	Activities	0	12	11	19	8	18	7 RAP & RGP	11: 9 RAP & RGP - 2 Dataverse training workshops	12: 5 RGP & 5 RAP | ASSM: 1 online data management training workshop | WG: 1	**10:** **ASSM:** 2 *Data Management & Sharing* training workshops **Grants:** 6 - 4 RGP & 2 RAP	1 NewGen fellow applied to and attended the CSS summer institute // ASSM: 5 Data Management & Sharing training workshops 2 meetings with Iraq background papers authors, lead author, project advisory committee, and ACSS project team. 1 meeting with ASSR4 background papers authors, lead author, and ACSS project team 1 mtg of the ACSS Dataverse advisory committee /// GRANTS: 4 RGP 2 RAP
	1.3 Increased collaborations and other initiatives between researchers and other specialists outside ACSS circle	Change in the number of joint projects and initiatives	0	0	0	0	2	8	12	18	17	14		0
Grant and fellowship applications, conferences	1.4 Increase in the number of proposals	Change in the number of proposals	ACSS Records	28 Proposals	23	142	95	494	835	537	508	467	465: 253 (grants) + 212 (conference)	Grants: 143
	1.5 A diversified geographical coverage by Nationalities/ Countries	Extent of diversity / to exceed a minimum of 10 countries	ACSS Records	15 Countries	NA	15 Countries	13 Countries	14 countries	23 countries (17 Arab Countries & 6 Non-Arab Countries)	26 countries (14 Arab Countries & 12 Non-Arab Countries)	27 countries (18 Arab countries & 9 non Arab)	32 countries (25 Arab countries & 7 non Arab)	28: 20 Arab & 8 non Arab	13 countries (11 Arab countries & 2 non-Arab)
	1.6 A gender balance	Extent of gender balance	ACSS Records	50% Females / 50% Males	50% Females / 50% Males	46% Females / 54% Males	48% Females / 52% Males	52% Females / 48% Males	58% Females/ 42%Males	54% Females/ 46%Males	40%Female/ 60% Male	49% Female / 51% Male	48% females / 52% Males	48% Female / 52% Male
Application process	1.7 Ability to address regional issues/ write better proposal	Number/ratio of good quality of proposals	Grants applications	40%	79%	45%	82%	96%	NA	NA	52%	61%	50%	52%
Grants (research grants, postdoctoral fellowships)	1.8 High proportion of funded research projects are completed on schedule	Proportion of projects completed	Grants	0	12 out of 12	8 out of 9	16 out of 16	29 out of 30	23 out of 28	34 out of 48	43 out of 58	34 out of 104	26 out of 83	46 out of 73
	1.9 Increased proportion of funded research projects are accepted for publishing	Number of accepted publications	Grants	0	0	7	10	18	16	21	27	33	38	17
	1.10 Increased invitations to present research results at international conferences	Number of invitations/participation in international events	Grants + Survey	0	1	3	11	19	14	15	49	31	22	30
Policy Dialogues	1.11 Increased use of research results by non-academic users	Proportion of grantees who reported usage of their research results by non-academic users	Policy dialogue workshops, seminars, articles	NA	NA	NA	50%	56%	71%	76%	51%	51%	**Grants:** 9%	Grants: 50%
ACSS Publications	1.12 Increased dissemination of the ACSS publications in Arabic	Number of events where ACSS publications are disseminated	Dissemination events	0	NA	NA	3	13 presentations on the ACSS & ASSM	20	4	**6 - ASSR: 3** events in Algeria. Palestine report: **1** event in Ramallah **Fourth Conference: 1** (Hanna Batatu) **Fatima Mernissi launch**	Online (website, FB, Twitter) disseminations due to COVID: Fatema Mernissi Second Annual Lecture and 7 working paper series (Arabic)	**Online dissemination**: * Fatema Mernissi Thrid Annual Lecture *Occasional Publication from the Fourth conference disseminated during the Fifth Conference **ASSM**: 'Data Management & Sharing training converted into an e-learning course on the ACSS Moodle ASSR3: 1 Keynote speech by lead author at ACSS 5th Conference in Cairo COVID report: - Mini campaign on ACSS social media - Presentation by the author at the ACSS Donors and Partners meeting - Al Fanar Media interview of the ACSS Director General reported in an article - Blog by the author on the International Science Council website - London-based Research Professional News interview of the	* ACSS publications booth at the Fourth Research Forum * Ethno diaries Journal- Dissemination and distribution during the launch of RR-issue 10 at Metro Al Madina * Ethno diaries Journal distribution at several ACSS workshops * Two webinars on "Critical Humanities in the Arab region: Agendas and Practices" co-organized with UNESCO /// ASSM: 'Data Management & Sharing training curriculum translated to Arabic 3 of the 5 Data Management & Sharing trainings in 2022 were in Arabic (keep?) Compilation of a list of about 200 Data Management & Sharing technical terms in Arabic Data Management training curriculum adapted as a training-of-trainer (ToT) Data Management training curriculum adapted for a short 4-hour training

Assumptions for Specific Objective: A constituency for research and its production exists.
Risk is Low. Political context calls for social science.
Risk is Low. National political situations will not affect the operation of the program negatively.
Risk is Moderate. Endowment is not obtained &/or grant funding is reduced & resources are not available to cover the operating costs & activities
Risk is Moderate. Severe repression of academic freedom in countries across the region
Risk is Moderate. Adjust program accordingly.

Specific Objective 2: Achieve a new and larger generation of social scientists integrated into regional networks.														
Application material and outreach	2.1 Increase the number of proposals	number of proposals	ACSS Records	28 Proposals	23	142	95	494	835	537	610 - 508 Grants/ 102 Summer Institute	**499** - Grants: 285 + 32 for Odum Environment Workshop | WG: 182	**Grants:** 253	50 proposals for CSS summer institute // Grants & fellowship: 50 proposals for CSS summer institute
	2.2 Ensure geographical coverage by Nationalities	Extent of diversity	ACSS Records	0	15	15	13	37	18 (Arab Countries) + 10 (Non Arab Countries) =28	26 countries (14 Arab Countries & 12 Non-Arab Countries)	27 countries (18 Arab countries & 9 non Arab)	**32** countries (25 Arab countries & 7 non Arab)	**Grants:** 23 countries (15 Arab & 8 non Arab)	11 countries (9 Arab, 2 non-Arab) // Grants & fellowship: 13 countries (11 Arab countries & 2 non-Arab)
Grants	2.3 Increase the geographical diversification of actively engaged grantees	Geographical coverage/ engagement	Grants	15	15 Countries	17 Countries	10 Countries	14 Countries	16 Countries	14 Arab countries	16	11 Arab countries	10 Arab countries	11 Arab countries
	2.4 A gender balance	Extent of gender balance	ACSS Records	NA	NA	NA	48% Females/52% Males	48.5% Females/ 51.5%Males	51% Females/ 49%Males	55% Females/ 45%Males	59% female/ 41% Male	52%female/48%male	54% female / 46% male	54%female/46%male
	2.5 Increase the number of actively engaged grantees	number of active grantees	Grants	0	44	56	77	121	186	116 out of a total of 302	117 out of 419	91 out of 420 grants and fellowships	83 out of 440	73 out of 394 grants and fellowships
New Gen Fellowship	2.6 Increase in applications	number of applications	Newgen	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	547	344 applications in total to the program	All in all: 577 /// Fully submitted: 152
	2.7 Diversity - Gender/ First Gen/ SS Majors / BA vs. MA+ PHD/ University Diversity / Public/ Private/ Countries	number of applications	Newgen	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(Gender: M: 28, F: 61) - (SS Major: 74) - (BA: 51, MA: 35, PhD: 5) - (Public Uni: 25, Private Uni: 65) - (Countries: 4 (Lebanon, Palestine, Egypt, Tunisia) - (Nationalities: Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine, Tunisia, Algeria, Yemen, Morocco, Sudan, Syria)	(Gender: M: 17, F: 30) - (SS Major: 35) - (BA: 30, MA: 12, PhD: 5) - (Public Uni: 14, Private Uni: 65) - (Countries: 4 (Lebanon, Palestine, Egypt, Tunisia) - (Nationalities: Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine, Tunisia, Algeria, Iraq, Yemen, Syria)	(Gender: M: 11, F: 39) - (SS Major: 40, Non SS: 10) - (BA: 17, MA: 26, PhD: 7) - (Public Uni: 26, Private Uni: 24) - (Countries: 4 Lebanon, Egypt, Palestine, Tunisia) - (Nationalities: Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine, Tunisia, Syria)
Mentorship Program, grants, workshops, conference, research forums & summer institute, Academy	2.8 Increased presentations of research results to diverse regional audiences	Number of presentations	Grants	0	0	6	11	19	164	32	67 - 38 conference & 29 survey	Research Forum in Tunis was cancelled due to Pandemic	RF + conference cancelled no grantees from G&F presented	27 presentations at CSS summer institute // Grants: 70
	2.9 Increased engagement of fellows in action programs	Extent of engagement	Survey	NA	NA	NA	NA	2	11	23	27	34	37	33
	2.10 Increased use of research ethics guidelines by different institutions	Number of grantees using the research ethics tools	Grants	0	(0 - 4)	(2 - 3)	(2 - 11)	NA	7	16	36	36	No RF	
Conferences	2.11 Increase the number of proposals	number of proposals	Conference	0	119	NA	247	NA	386	NA	260	NA	212	No conference in 2022
	2.12 A gender balance	Extent of gender balance	ACSS Records	0	43% Females / 67% Males	NA	45% Females / 55% Males	NA	53.5 % Females / 46.5 % Males	NA	55% Male/ 45% Female	49% Male/ 51% Female	49% Male/ 51% Female	No conference
	2.13 Increase number of junior scholars to present at ACSS conferences	Number of applications	Conference	0	5	NA	96	NA	86	NA	75	NA	76	No conference
	2.14 Maintain a 2/3 proportion of junior scholar presenters at ACSS conference	Proportion of presenters who are junior scholars	Conference	0	50%	NA	68%	NA	74%	NA	43%	NA	31%	No conference
	2.15 New Gen fellows presenting/participating in Conference	Proportion of presenters who are Newgen Fellows	Conference	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%	0% (only participants from outside our programs presented due to COVID restrictions)	No conference
Membership	2.16 Increased number of young scholars who become members of ACSS	Number of new members	Membership	0	NA	7	58	123	169	150	20 increase = 170	20 increase = 190 in total	4 increase (student) = 194 in total	6 increase= 102 total
	2.17 Increase number of grantees who become members of ACSS	Number of new members	Membership	0	NA	NA	10	3	7	7	11	NA	NA	
	2.18 New Gen fellows that become Members	Number of new members	Membership	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	
	2.19 A gender balance	Extent of gender balance	ACSS Records	NA	NA	NA	48% Females/52% Males	36% Females / 64% Males	23% Females/ 76%Males	30.8% Females - 69.2% Males	34.77% Females - 65.23% Males	69% Males - 31% Female	69% Males - 31% Female	69% Males - 31% Female
Research Forum	2.20 Increase number of junior scholars who present at ACSS Research Forum	Number of junior scholars	Research Forum	0	NA	NA	NA	19	NA	60	NA	Research Forum in Tunis was cancelled due to Pandemic	NA	70
	2.21 A gender balance	Extent of gender balance	ACSS Records	NA	NA	NA	NA	45% Females/ 55%Males	NA	52% Females/ 48%Males	NA	Research Forum in Tunis was cancelled due to Pandemic	NA	69% Males - 31% Female

Workshops & Travel grants	2.22 Increased presentations international conferences	Number of presentations	Travel Grants	0	2	4	9	10	11	21	17			3
	2.23 Increased number of funded workshops	Number of workshops	Travel Grants	NA	NA	NA	NA	2	10	6	12	14	**Grants**: 5	0
Blended learning, training, summer academy	2.24 Increase in number of social science courses developed	Number of courses created	Online Courses	0	NA	NA	NA	1	0	0	NA	Newgen: 4	**Newgen**: 2	NewGen: 5 courses
	2.25 Increase in number of students enrolled in ACSS classes and trainings	Number of engaged students	Trainings	0	NA	NA	NA	49 registered for the online course 20 attended summer institute	NA	NA	NA	Newgen: 48 registered for the online podcast training and 55 attended	**Academy**: 50 attended virtually **Newgen**: 18 attended the Academy	80% of NewGen fellows attended ACSS led online courses, modules, and digital literacy tarining
	2.26 Increase in number of usage of created resources by students, teachers and administrators	Number of resources used/downloaded	Website	0	NA	NA	NA	248	NA	NA	NA	NA		No Info provided
Social Networking	2.27 Increased number of users / followers	Number of users/ followers	Social Media Pages	0	800	2100	3144 (Facebook: 2918; Twitter: 226 Followers)	8626 (Facebook: 7708; Twitter: 918 Followers)	18,611 (Facebook: 17,243; Twitter: 1,368)	25,702 (Facebook: 23566; Twitter: 2136)	32,270 (FB 29,500 / Twitter 2,770)	**36,517**: FB 33,300 | Twitter 3,217	**46,600: FB**: 42,700 | Twitter: 3,900	**46,450: FB**: 41,000 | Twitter: 4,150 | Instagram: 500 | Youtube: 800
Newgen FB page	2.28 Increased number of users / followers	Number of users/ followers	Facebook page									104 followers	50 new fellows = 154 in total	49 = 198
Website	2.29 Increased use of the website for engagement purposes	Number of visits to the website	Website	Average of 35 Unique Visitor/ Month	Average of 247 Unique Visitor/ Month	Average of 310 Unique Visitors / Month	Average of 426 Unique Visitors / Month	Average of 541 Unique Visitors / Month	Average of 964 Unique Visitors / Month	TBD	Average of 5000 Visitors / Month (Wassim introduced Google Analytics this year, so the number is more accurate than past years)	Average of 5,610 visitors per month	Average of 6,000 visitors per month	Launch of NewGen website // ACSS website: Average of 6,000 visitors per month
NewGen Graduates	Number of graduated fellows	NewGen Records	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	NA	N/A	10	20
	Taking Next Steps / Outcomes of graduation	Number of success stories	NewGen Records	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	Dana Rafidi (MA in SS UK), Toufik Yaktine (MA in SS Balamand), Jaada Barazi (completed an internship at AUB + MA in SS in Europe), Joy Jurancovitch (applying to MA in SS in Belgium), 3 lebanese fellows grasated and are working (one as a financial analyst at Deloitte, one as a researcher at AUBMC, one as a reporter in an international news outlet)
Facilitation of Internships	Number of internships	Extent of MA fellows scoring winter/summer internships	NewGen Records	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	5

Assumptions for Specific Objective: A constituency for research and its production exists.
Risk is Low. Political context calls for social science.
Risk is Low. National political situations will not affect the operation of the program negatively.
Risk is Moderate. Endowment is not obtained &/or grant funding is reduced & resources are not available to cover the operating costs & activities
Risk is Moderate. Severe repression of academic freedom in countries across the region

Risk is Moderate. Adjust program accordingly.

Specific Objective 3: Achieve institutionalization of ACSS as a credible recognized network of researchers

Arab Social Science Report	3.1 Increased dissemination, citations and use of the report (hard and soft copies)	Number of citations	Website, Print	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	N/A	N/A	ASSR1: 200 copies / ASSR2: 400 copies ASSR2 background papers: 4 / Reviews of ASSR2: in 2 regional newspapers	ASSM: Covid Survey + ASSR3 long abstracts/summary (website)	1. COVID-19 report translated to Arabic and French (on ACSS website) 2. 6 ASSM Databases (5 updated, 1 new) (on ACSS website) 3. ASSM Databases Summary Tables updated (on ACSS website)	ACSS Dataverse (addition of datasets to it) 6 ASSM Databases (5 updated) (on ACSS Dataverse) ASSM Databases Summary Tables updated (on ACSS Dataverse) Final draft of ASSR3 submitted by lead author (keep??) Concept note for the ASSR4 (internal document, keep?) 10 background papers for the ASSR4 (unpublished, keep?) 6 background papers for the Iraq report (unpublished, keep?) Survey of social scientists in Iraq (keep?) /// GRANTS: 2: AFAC-FMSH-CODESRIA
Draft agreements with other institutions	3.2 Increased inter-institutional collaboration with ACSS	Number of MOUs with other institutions	Partnerships/Collaborations	0	1	3	7	SSRC, CEU, IRD, Birzeit, Al Marsad Palestine, UNESCO	13	15	**Grants: 4** - AFAC-Lebanon Support-FMSH-Rosa Luxemburg **ASSM: 4** - ARIJ - UNC Chapel Hill - International Federation of Data Organizations for Social Sciences (IFDO) - World Data Systems (WDS) Research/workshops: AUB-UNC	**15 - Grants: 7** AFAC-FMSH-CODESRIA-American University of Beirut-Higher Population Council in Jordan-Hebron University-Andariya | **ASSM: 3** - UNC Chapel Hill (Collaboration) - International Federation of Data Organizations for Social Sciences (IFDO) - World Data Systems (WDS) | **Newgen: 5** (universities)	**ASSM**: UNC Chapel Hill (Ongoing Collaboration on open data) International Federation of Data Organizations for Social Sciences (ACSS is a member of IFDO) World Data Systems (ACSS is a member of WDS) **Grants**: 2 AFAC - FMSH (no institutional grants in RGP nor RAP)	Economic Research Forum. MOU signed in November 2022 with the ERF for joint work on Data Management & Sharing // ASSM: Economic Research Forum. MOU signed in November 2022 with the ERF for joint work on Data Management & Sharing UNC Chapel Hill (Ongoing Collaboration on open data). Collaboration renewed for 3 more years (2023-2025) and includes the University of Oxford as a new partner. International Federation of Data Organizations for Social Sciences (ACSS is a member of IFDO) World Data Systems (ACSS is a member of WDS). Membership is being renewed. re3data.org. ACSS Dataverse is registered in the Registry of Research Data Repositories
Int'l networking and collaborations	3.3 Increase institutional membership in ACSS	Change in the number of institutional members	Partnerships/Collaborations	0	NA	0	0	1	2	1	1	14 new in 2020	2 new	12 in total
Membership database	3.4 Increase in individual membership in ACSS	Change in the number of individual members	Partnerships/Collaborations	58	NA	137	171	275	483	587	601	689	710	809
Recognition in other organizations	3.5 Increased recognition by other organizations	Number of invitations to present ACSS at other organizations events	ACSS Records	3	9	9	22	13	17	18	ASSM: 8 Other: 4	7 -DG: 5 | ASSM: 1 | WG: 1	**10:** **ASSM**: ACSS-organized panel on open data at Arab Open Access Week conference organized by ALECSO and ACOA **Director General:** 7 **Associate Directo**r: 2	ACSS work on Data Management presented as a model in the region in a non-ACSS presentation at the 3rd Arab Forum for Open Access
Funding Proposals	3.6 Increased funding of activities from diverse sources	Amount of funding	Fundraising	1	1.81	1.98	1.65	2.72	5.08	*New grant from Ford Foundation (SGP): $200,000 *New grant from Carnegie Corporation NY: $1,500,000 *New grant from IDRC: CAD 988,100 *Supplement from Sida: SEK3,000,000	*New grant from Carnegie Corporation NY: US$ 407,000 for SS research in Iraq *New grant from IDRC on Gender Studies for CAD70,000 *New grant from IDRC on Research Ethics for CAD400,000 *New grant from OSF on New Generation for US$50,000 *New grant from OSF on Gender Studies for US$230,000 *New grant from Andrew Mellon Foundation on Research on Arab Humanities & Arts for US$1,000,000 *A subaward grant from AUB for US$330,550	* New grant from Carnegie Corporation NY: $1,500,000 (for 2 years) * Ford Build supplement grant from Ford Foundation: $250,000 * New grant from OSF on Training to Engaged Gender Research: US$170,000 (for 2 years) * New grant from UNESCO - WHR 2020: $14,000 * New grant from University of Wisconsin - WHR 2020: $40,000	* Carnegie Corporation NY: $1,500,000 (for 2 years) * OSF on Training to Engaged Gender Research: US$170,000 (for 2 years) * University of North Carolina: $148,633 * La Fondation Maison des sciences de lhomme (FMSH): $50,000 * UNESCO: $30,000 * SIDA: $59,065 * Open Society Foundation (2021): $150,000	*Sida $695,423 *IDRC $498,070 *Carnegie Corporation NY $1,988,100 *Ford Foundation $450,000 *University of North Carolina $220,518 *UNESCO $21,000
Attendance at meetings and joint projects	3.7 Increased collaboration with social science networks in other regions and globally	Number of collaboration	ACSS Records	0	2	2	7	7	14	14	**12** - **Grants: 2** (CODESRIA & FMSH) **ASSM: 4** - Research Data Alliance / Seoul National University Asia Center / IDRC / Bahithat & AUB Gender archiving symposium **Other: 6**	**6 - Grants: 4** FMSH-CODESRIA-AUB-Hebron University | **WG: 2** CLACSO-MERIP	**Fifth Conference:** Hassan II University, Al-Akhawayn University, American University in Cairo **ASSM:** -Knowledge for Public Good webinar for ACSS 10th anniversary co-organized by the ACSS, CLACSO, UNC & ERF -ACSS-organized panel on open data at Arab Open Access Week conference organized by ALECSO and ACOA -ACSS part of the ISC delegation to UNESCO open science mtg **Grants**: 1 with FMSH	
Committee and consultation meetings	3.8 Increased participation and buy-in by target populations	Extent of participation	ACSS Records	1 Committee	2 Selection Committees + 2 ASSM Committees	3 Selection Committees + 2 ASSM Committees	4 Selection Committees + 2 ASSM Committees + 1 Working Group	4 Selection Committees + 1 ASSM Committee + 1 Working Group + 1 conference	3 Selection Committees + 1 ASSM Committee + 1 WG Committee + 1 Conference Committee	6 Selection Committees + 1 ASSM Committee + 3 WG Committee (CSS, COP, Regionalism) + 1 Conference Committee	**11** - **Grants: 6** Selection Committees & 1 Advisory Committee **Conference: 2** Fourth Conference committee meetings	**12 - Grants: 6** Selection Committees & **1** Advisory Committee | **ASSM: 2** advisory committee mtg. (ASSM & Iraq project) & **1** Dataverse selection committee mtg. | **WG: 1** Selection Committee for the IED program]	**12:** **ASSM**: 1- Dataverse Advisory Committee mtgs 2 - Iraq project Advisory Committee mtg 2 - Dataverse selection committees **Grants**: 6 Selection Committees & 1 Advisory committee	World Data Systems (ACSS is a member of WDS). Membership is being renewed. //// ASSM: 1 Dataverse advisory committee mtg -- 3 Dataverse training selection committees --- 2 Iraq project advisory committee mtg /// Grants: 5 Selection Committees

Assumptions for Specific Objective: A constituency for research and its production exists.

Risk is Low. Political context calls for social science.

Risk is Low. National political situations will not affect the operation of the negatively.
Risk is Moderate. Political instability in Lebanon might result in a potential closure of the head office in Beirut, Lebanon
Risk is Moderate. Severe repression of academic freedom in countries across the region
Risk is Moderate. Staffing problems: Delay in finding specialized staff who possess the skills &/or competencies required for certain positions

Risk is Moderate. Adjust program accordingly.

Specific Objective 4: Promote and implement good governance to ensure transparency, confidence, balanced and professional decision-making

Contacts with other institutions	4.1 Increase institutional membership in ACSS	Change in the number of institutional members	Partnerships/Collaborations	0	NA	0	0	1	2	1	1	10	2 new in 2021	12
Membership database	4.2 Increase in individual membership in ACSS	Change in the number of individual members	Membership	58	NA	137	171	275	483	533	601	689	710 in total	99 increase = 809 total
	4.3 A gender balance is maintained	Extent of gender balance	ACSS Records	NA	NA	NA	48% Females/52% Males	36% Females / 64% Males	23% Females/ 76%Males	28.5% Females - 71.5% Males	34.77% Females - 65.23% Males	69% Males - 31% Female	69% Males - 31% Female	31.91% Females - 68.09% Males
Board of Trustees	4.4 A diversity of disciplines at the BoT level	Extent of discipline representation	ACSS records	NA	NA	NA	Sociology, history, economics, philosophy, urban planning, political sciences, economics	Sociology, history, economics, philosophy, urban planning, political sciences, economics	Anthropology, sociology, architecture, urban planning, economics, political sciences	Anthropology, sociology, architecture, urban planning, economics, political sciences	Anthropology, sociology, architecture, urban planning, economics, political sciences	Anthropology, sociology, architecture, urban planning, economics, political sciences	Anthropology, Sociology, architecture, Urban Planning, Economics, Political Sciences, Philosophy	Anthropology, Sociology, architecture, Urban Planning, Economics, Political Sciences, Philosophy
	4.5 A gender balance is maintained	Extent of gender balance	ACSS records	NA	NA	NA	17% females	17% females	33% females	33% females	28% Female	28% Female	50% Female	50% male - 50% female

Good Governance Policy	4.6 Design educational material on good governance principles of integrity, ethical values and engagement and implement accordingly across ACSS stakeholders	Record of these principles	Governance policy	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	N/A	Code of Ethics and Conduct Draft Document to be ratified by the BoT in January 2019	Code of Ethics and Conduct ratified by the BoT in January 2019	Code of Ethics and Conduct ratified by the BoT in January 2019	Code of Ethics and Conduct ratified by the BoT in January 2019	Code of Ethics and Conduct ratified by the BoT in January 2019
Monitoring & Evaluation	4.7 Develop a self-evaluation tool on governance practices	Record of recommendations and action plan for implementation	Monitoring & Evaluation procedure	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	N/A	N/A	RBM logframe & anuual grantee survey	RBM logframe & anuual grantee survey | NewGen: M & E Logframe specific to the program	* RBM Logframe * Annual Grantee Survey * Fifth Conference participants survey * Academy participants survey * Newgen M & E logframe specific to the program	* RBM Logframe * Annual Grantee Survey * Newgen M & E logframe specific to the program
ACSS activities	4.8 Stakeholder engagement in the ACSS activities	Record of members, grantees and Newgen fellows' engagements in ACSS activities	Activities, Grants, General Assembly	0	NA	NA	NA	Members were invited to be part of selection committees for grantees' selections of different programs, others were invited to be on the technical and/or advisory committees of the ASSR, few grantees were requested to be panelists at activities that the ACSS organized or was part of (e.g. media Studies by AUB, IFPO, …)	Members were invited to be part of selection committees for grantees' selections of different programs, others were invited to be on the technical and/or advisory committees of the ASSR, few grantees were requested to be panelists at activities that the ACSS organized or was part of (e.g. media Studies by AUB, IFPO, …)	Members were invited to be part of selection committees for grantees' selections of different programs, others were invited to be on the technical and/or advisory committees of the ASSR, few grantees were requested to be panelists at activities that the ACSS organized or was part of (e.g. CLACSO, ISA, Codesria, IFI, ...)	Members were invited to be part of selection committees for grantees' selections of different programs, others were invited to be on the technical and/or advisory committees of the ASSR, Members were invited to be part of the Fourth Conference selection committee as well as to chair panels at the conference.	Members were invited to be part of selection committees for grantees' selections of different programs, for the NPF program a group of 4 mentors were recruited, other members were invited to be on the advisory committee of the RGP program. Academy: WG members reviewed and selected the participants	**Fifth Conference**: Members were invited to chair panels at the Fifth Conference **Grants**: Members were invited to be part of selection committees for grantees' selections of different programs, for the NPF program a group of 4 mentors were recruited, other members were invited to be on the advisory committee of the RGP program.	NewGen: ACSS staff, members from the Palestine ACSS branch, and in-country program coordinators were invited to be part of selection committee for fellow selection (application assessment and interviews) + Meeting with CPCs in March to go over NewGen plans /// MEMBERSHIP: Members were invited to be part of selection committees for grantees' selections of different programs, others were invited to be on the technical and/or advisory committees of the ASSR, Members were invited to be part of the Sixth Conference selection committee as well as to chair panels at the conference in May 2023. CSS WG members reviewed and selected the summer institute participants /// Grants and fellowships: Members were invited to be part of selection committees for grantees' selections of different programs, for the NPF program a group of 4 mentors were recruited. They were also invited to chair panels in the Fourth Research forum.
Internal policies and procedures	4.9 Satisfaction of all stakeholders with operation of the ACSS	Number of complaints	Website, Feedback, Survey, Social Media.	4	2 complaints related to a delay in answering on their membership application	2	3	4	3	3	1 related to an ACSS statement on social media & 2 related to grants approvals	**3**: 1 related to a grant rejection and 2 related to rejections to the Fifth Conference	4: 1 related to rejection from the conference. 1 member complained that they are not involved enough in our activities. 1 from a Newgen participant 1 from a CoP participant	MEMBERSHIP: 1 related to membership rejection

Assumptions for Specific Objective: Willingness to work within the scope of a good governance policy exists

Risk is Low. Political context calls for social science.

Risk is Low. National political situations will not affect the operation of the program negatively.

Risk is Moderate. Adjust program accordingly.

Appendix 3 - Fourth Research Program

المجلس العربي للعلوم الاجتماعية
Arab Council for the Social Sciences
Conseil Arabe pour les Sciences Sociales

منتدى البحوث الرابع

4th RESEARCH FORUM

بيروت

BEIRUT

20-24 June/حزيران

2022

البرنامج

PROGRAM

اليوم الأول الإثنين 20 حزيران/يونيو
DAY 1 Monday 20 June

REGISTRATION	التسجيـل	8:00 – 9:00
Opening Session: Welcome: **Mohammed Bamyeh** (Chair of the Board of Trustees) **Moushira Elgeziri** (Associate Director)	**جلسة الافتتاح:** الترحيب: **محمد باميه** (رئيس مجلس الأمناء) **مشيرة الجزيري** (المديرة المشاركة)	9:00 – 9:45 Queen of the Colonies
Welcome Coffee استراحة القهوة		9:45 – 10:00

Panels 1 - 2	الجلسـات 1 - 2	10:00 – 12:00
Panel 1: Early Career Fellows Program (Cycle 6) Chair: **Samer Kherfi**	**الجلسة 1:** برنامج الزملاء الناشئين (الدورة السادسة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **سامر خرفي**	Queen of the Colonies I
Speaker: **Maissoun Sharkawi** Discussant: **Younes Loukili**	**التراث الثقافي ما قبل الصناعي في فلسطين ما بين أواخر القرن التاسع عشر وأوائل القرن العشرين** الباحث/ة: **ميسون شرقاوي** المناقش/ة: **يونس الوكيلي**	
Speaker: **Abdelhamid Faiz** Discussant: **Fouzia Borj**	**في مساءلة تجارب إدارة النزاعات التقليدية في الميدان** الباحث/ة: **عبد الحميد فائز** المناقش/ة: **فوزية برج**	
Panel 2: Research on the Arts Program (Cycle 3) Chair: **Kirsten Scheid**	**الجلسة 2:** برنامج البحوث حول الفنون (الدورة الثالثة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **كرستن شايد**	Ille de France
Speaker: **Yara Khoury Nammour** Discussant: **Alaa Tartir**	**Opening the book from the "wrong" end; Arabic/Latin Bi-scriptal Book formats** الباحث/ة: **يارا خوري نمور** المناقش/ة: **علاء الترتير**	
Speaker: **Alya Karame** Discussant: **Dia Barghouti**	**To Dust / to Ashes: Transposing the Qur'an's Sacrality** الباحث/ة: **عليا كرامي** المناقش/ة: **ضياء البرغوثي**	
Coffee Break استراحة القهوة		12:00 – 12:30

Panels 3 - 4	الجلسـات 3 - 4	12:30 – 14:30
Panel 3: Early Career Fellows Program (Cycle 7) Chair: **Mounir Saidani**	**الجلسة 3:** برنامج الزملاء الناشئين (الدورة السابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **منير السعيداني**	Queen of the Colonies I
Speaker: **Hadil Karkar** Discussant: **Sanaa Tannoury-Karam**	**Palestine as a Settler-Colonial Project in 19th century Anglophone Literature** الباحث/ة: **هديل كركر** المناقش/ة: **سنا التنوري-كرم**	
Speaker: **Ismahen Ben Fraj** Discussant: **Mouloud Amghar**	**ثقافة المؤسّسة زمن مجتمع المخاطر: بين مطرقة النّيوليبراليّة وسندان الثّورة والوباء، دراسة حالة المجمّع الكيميائي بصفاقس، تونس** الباحث/ة: **اسمهان بنفرج** المناقش/ة: **مولود أمغار**	

Panel 4: Research on the Arts Program (Cycle 3) Chair: **Driss Ksikes**		**الجلسة 4:** برنامج البحوث حول الفنون (الدورة الثالثة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **دريس كسيكس**
Speaker: **Alaa Tartir** Discussant: **Sally Shalabi**	**سيرة حية (سيرحية) مؤقتة: عادل الترتير، فرقة بلالين، ومسرح صندوق العجب**	الباحث/ة: **علاء الترتير** المناقش/ة: **سالي شلبي**
Speaker: **Touda Bouanani** Discussant: **Malek Lakhal**	**Intilak : cinéma retrouvé**	الباحث/ة: **تودة بوعناني** المناقش/ة: **ملاك الأكحل**

Ille de France

Lunch Break استراحة غداء — 14:30 - 15:30

Panels 5-6	**الجلسـات 5 - 6**	15:30 - 17:30

Panel 5: Early Career Fellows Program (Cycle 8) Chair: **Islah Jad**		**الجلسة 5:** برنامج الزملاء الناشئين (الدورة الثامنة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **إصلاح جاد**
Speaker: **Dia Barghouti** Discussant: **Alya Karame**	**Islamic Rituals, Religious Festivals, and Staged Performances of Sufi Music : Cross Cultural Comparisons Between Tunisia and Palestine**	الباحث/ة: **ضياء البرغوثي** المناقش/ة: **عليا كرامي**
Speaker: **Mahjouba Kaoukaou** Discussant: **Magda Hasabelnaby**	**الاستعمال الديني لشبكة الانترنيت وسؤال الهوية الجندرية**	الباحث/ة: **محجوبة قاوقو** المناقش/ة: **ماجدة حسب النبي**

Queen of the Colonies I

Panel 6: Research on the Arts Program (Cycles 3&4) Chair: **Kirsten Scheid**		**الجلسة 6:** برنامج البحوث حول الفنون (الدورتان الثالثة والرابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **كرستن شايد**
Speaker: **Mai Elwakil & Nour El Safoury** Discussant: **Bahia Shehab**	**How to gather a useful oral history of art criticism from people who write it**	الباحث/ة: **مي الوكيل ونور الصافوري** المناقش/ة: **بهية شهاب**
Speaker: **Salma Serry** Discussant: **Randa Aboubakr**	**A Study of the Arab Woman Cookbook Al-Tabkh Al-Manzeli (1914) by Munira Francise**	الباحث/ة: **سلمى سري** المناقش/ة: **رندة أبوبكر**

Queen of the Colonies III

Panel 7	**الجلسـة 7**	15:30 - 18:30

Panel 7: Small Grants Program on Ethical Dilemmas in the Social Sciences (Cycle 1) Chair: **Jamil Mouawad**		**الجلسة 7:** برنامج المنح الصغيرة حول الإشكاليّات الأخلاقية في العلوم الاجتماعية (الدورة الأولى) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **جميل معوض**
Speaker: **Fouzia Borj** Discussant: **Soraya El Kahlaoui**	**تحديات أخلاقيات "عدم إلحاق الضرر": سرديات إثنوغرافية في ظروف النزاع**	الباحث/ة: **فوزية برج** المناقش/ة: **صوريا الكحلاوي**
Speaker: **Mai Abu Moghli** Discussant: **Ben Ahmed Houga**	**أخلاق البحث في فلسطين: بين المؤسساتية وقوة الممارسة**	الباحث/ة: **مي أبو مغلي** المناقش/ة: **بن احمد حوكا**
Speaker: **Faten Mbarek** Discussant: **Reem Abbas**	**في مسألة الثقة ومستقبل البحث الميداني في البحوث الاجتماعية**	الباحث/ة: **فاتن مبارك** المناقش/ة: **ريم عباس**

Ille de France

اليوم الثاني الثلاثاء 21 حزيران/يونيو

DAY 2 Tuesday 21 June

Roundtable: Research Ethics in the Social Sciences in Turbulent Times **طاولة مستديرة: أخلاقيات البحث في العلوم الاجتماعية في الأزمنة المضطربة**	9:00 - 11:00 Queen of the Colonies III
Coffee Break استراحة القهوة	11:00 - 11:30

Panels 8 - 9 - 10	**الجلسـات 8 - 9 - 10**		11:30 - 13:30
Panel 8: Research on the Arts Program (Cycles 2&4) Chair: **Driss Ksikes**	**الجلسة 8:** برنامج البحوث حول الفنون (الدورتان الثانية والرابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **دريس كسيكس**		Queen of the Colonies I
Speaker: **Reem Abbas** Discussant: **Faten Mbarek**	**When Art is shutdown: exploring the contemporary impact of the crackdown on Art between 1989 to 1994**	الباحث/ة: **ريم عباس** المناقش/ة: **فاتن مبارك**	
Speaker: **Eman Abdou** Discussant: **Jessika Khazrik**	**Routes and stories of Modern Egyptian Painting**	الباحث/ة: **إيمان عبده** المناقش/ة: **جيسيكا خزريك**	
Panel 9: Early Career Fellows Program (Cycle 7) Chair: **Hania Sholkamy**	**الجلسة 9:** برنامج الزملاء الناشئين (الدورة السابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **هانيا شلقامي**		Ille de France
Speaker: **Ali Abboud** Discussant: **Adel Takruri**	**Fertility and Women's Careers in Egypt**	الباحث/ة: **علي عبود** المناقش/ة: **عادل تكروري**	
Speaker: **Yassine Yassni** Discussant: **Maysaa Nemer**	**ميادين حساسة: عودة متفحصة لدراسة ميدانية لوضع النساء المغربيات السوداوات**	الباحث/ة: **ياسين يسني** المناقش/ة: **ميساء نمر**	
Panel 10: Research Grants Program on Health and Livelihoods (Cycle 7) Chair: **Livia Wick**	**الجلسة 10:** برنامج المنح البحثية حول الصحة وسبل المعيشة (الدورة السابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **ليفيا ويك**		Queen of the Colonies III
Speaker: **Abla Amawi & Manal Alghazawi** Discussant: **Anas Ben Cheikh**	**التقاطع ما بين الصحة النفسية وصحة الأمهات حول الولادة لدى اللاجئات السوريات المتزوجات ما دون سن الـ 18**	الباحث/ة: **عبله عماوي ومنال الغزاوي** المناقش/ة: **أناس ابن الشيخ**	
Speaker: **Jihad Makhoul** Discussant: **Manal Alghazawi**	**Examining Illness and Access to Surgical Care among Refugees: The Case of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon**	الباحث/ة: **جهاد مخول** المناقش/ة: **منال الغزاوي**	
Lunch Break استراحة غداء			13:30 - 14:30

Panels 11 - 12 - 13	الجلسـات 11 - 12 - 13	14:30 - 16:30
Panel 11: New Paradigms Factory (Cycle 4) Chair: **Asmaa Benadada**	**الجلسة 11:** مشغل النماذج الفكرية الجديدة (الدورة الرابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **أسماء بنعدادة**	Queen of the Colonies I
Speaker: **Jawida Mansour** Discussant: **Maissoun Sharkawi**	**مشروع تحرري مصغر على قطعة قماش**	الباحث/ة: **جاوده منصور** المناقش/ة: **ميسون شرقاوي**
Speaker: **Malek Lakhal** Discussant: **Touda Bouanani**	**Militer et transmettre : Une étude des frictions entre « générations » de féministes**	الباحث/ة: **ملاك الأكحل** المناقش/ة: **تودة بوعناني**
Panel 12: ACSS-FMSH Short-Term Postdoctoral Mobility Fellowship Program in the Social Sciences and Humanities (Cycle 4) Chair: **Mounir Saidani**	**الجلسة 12:** برنامج زمالات ما بعد الدكتوراه للتنقل بالتعاون مع FMSH (الدورة الرابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **منير السعيداني**	Ille de France
Speaker: **Abdelali Goufri** Discussant: **Ismahen Ben Fraj**	**L'évolution de la végétation, son impact sur les îlots de chaleur et sa relation avec les politiques publiques, Cas de Marrakech, Maroc**	الباحث/ة: **عبد العالي كورفي** المناقش/ة: **اسمهان بنـفرج**
Speaker: **Abdelmalik Atamena** Discussant: **Ali Kassem**	**Germaine, Koury et Fatma: Trois appellations, une seule figure**	الباحث/ة: **عبد المليك عثامنه** المناقش/ة: **علي قاسم**
Panel 13: Research on the Arts Program (Cycle 3) Chair: **Reem Saad**	**الجلسة 13:** برنامج البحوث حول الفنون (الدورة الثالثة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **ريم سعد**	Queen of the Colonies III
Speaker: **Khaldun Bshara & Dana Abbas** Discussant: **Mounira Khayyat**	**The Absent Map: Finding your way in your homeland**	الباحث/ة: **خلدون بشارة ودانـا عبـاس** المناقش/ة: **منيرة خياط**
Speaker: **Jessika Khazrik & Ahmad Baydoun** Discussant: **Ghadeer Ahmed**	**Towards a Cartography of Darkness: Militiazed Kleptocracy and the Toxic Bankability of Energy and the Environment in Lebanon**	الباحث/ة: **جيسيكا خزريك وأحمد بيضون** المناقش/ة: **غدير أحمد**

اليوم الثالث الأربعاء 22 حزيران/يونيو

DAY 3 Wednesday 22 June

Panels 14 - 15	الجلسـات 14 - 15	9:00 - 11:00
Panel 14: Research on the Arts Program (Cycle 3) Chair: **Kirsten Scheid**	**الجلسة 14:** برنامج البحوث حول الفنون (الدورة الثالثة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **كرستن شايد**	Queen of the Colonies I
Speaker: **Randa Aboubakr & Magda Hasabelnaby** Discussant: **Reem Marje**	**Egyptian Literature: Archiving the Egyptian Cuisine**	الباحث/ة: **رندة أبوبكر وماجدة حسب النبي** المناقش/ة: **ريم مرجي**
Speaker: **Sally Shalabi** Discussant: **Jawida Mansour**	**الموروث الشفوي بين الهوية والمعاصرة**	الباحث/ة: **سالي شلبي** المناقش/ة: **جاوده منصور**
Panel 15: Research Grants Program on Enviromentalism (Cycle 6) Chair: **Reem Saad**	**الجلسة 15:** برنامج المنح البحثية حول البيئويّة (الدورة السادسة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **ريم سعد**	Ille de France
Speaker: **Karim Eid-Sabbagh** Discussant: **Kholoud Al-Ajarma**	**Agrarian transformation in South Lebanon: between war, occupation, and neoliberalisation**	الباحث/ة: **كريم عيد الصباغ** المناقش/ة: **خلود العجارمة**
Speaker: **Munira Khayyat** Discussant: **Khaldun Bshara**	**A Landscape of War: Ecologies of Resistance and Survival in South Lebanon**	الباحث/ة: **منيرة الخياط** المناقش/ة: **خلدون بشارة**
Coffee Break استراحة القهوة		11:00 - 11:30
Panels 16 - 17	**الجلسـات 16 - 17**	11:30 - 13:30
Panel 16: ACSS-FMSH Short-Term Postdoctoral Mobility Fellowship Program in the Social Sciences and Humanities (Cycle 4) Chair: **Asmaa Benadada**	**الجلسة 16:** برنامج زمالات ما بعد الدكتوراه للتنقل بالتعاون مع FMSH (الدورة الرابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **أسماء بنعدادة**	Queen of the Colonies I
Speaker: **Oussama Boufrikha** Discussant: **Abdelmalik Atamena**	**البناء الاجتماعي والثقافي للجماعة المزابية بباريس**	الباحث/ة: **أسامة بوفريخة** المناقش/ة: **عبدالمليك عثامنة**
Speaker: **Dounia Laouar Amarouchene** Discussant: **Abdelali Gourfi**	**L'impact des opérations de renouvellement urbain sur la sécurité dans les quartiers prioritaires : Les nouvelles formes urbaines sont elles garantes de sécurité ?**	الباحث/ة: **دنيا لعور عمروشان** المناقش/ة: **عبد العالي كورفي**

Panel 17: Research on the Arts Program (Cycle 4) Chair: **Driss Ksikes**		**الجلسة 17:** برنامج البحوث حول الفنون (الدورة الرابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **دريس كسيكس**	Ille de France
Speaker: **Reem Marje** Discussant: **Salma Serry**	**حوران، أما عن باقي أنحاء الوطن (انعكاسات الأغنية الشعبية في السردية الاجتماعية)**	الباحث/ة: **ريم مرجي** المناقش/ة: **سلمى سري**	
Speaker: **Bahia Shehab &Huda AbiFarès** Discussant: **Yara Khoury Nammour**	**Revealing, Recording, Reflecting: Wowen Design Pioneers from the SWANA Region**	الباحث/ة: **بهية شهاب وهدى أبي فـارس** المناقش/ة: **يارا خوري نمور**	
Lunch Break استراحة غداء			13:30 - 14:30
Panels 18 - 19		**الجلسـات 18 - 19**	14:30 - 16:30
Panel 18: Early Career Fellows Program (Cycle 6 &7) Chair: **Jocelyn DeJong**		**الجلسة 18:** برنامج الزملاء الناشئين (الدورتان السادسة والسابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **جوسلين ديونغ**	Queen of the Colonies I
Speaker: **Sana Tannoury-Karam** Discussant: **Hadil Karkar**	**Literature and the Political Engagement of Leftist Intellectuals in Mandate Lebanon**	الباحث/ة: **سنا التنوري-كرم** المناقش/ة: **هديل كركر**	
Speaker: **Ali Kassem** Discussant: **Karim Eid-Sabbagh**	**Village-ness, Discrimination, and Urban Modernity: Thinking alongside 'Village People' in Lebanon**	الباحث/ة: **علي قاسم** المناقش/ة: **كريم عيد الصباغ**	
Panel 19: Research Grants Program on Enviromentalism (Cycle 6) Chair: **Mabrouk Boutagouga**		**الجلسة 19:** برنامج المنح البحثية حول البيئويّة (الدورة السادسة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **مبروك بوطقوقة**	Ille de France
Speaker: **Rahal Boubrik** Discussant: **Slimane Bencherif**	**Pastoralisme nomade et tensions sociales au Sud du Maroc**	الباحث/ة: **رحال بوبريك** المناقش/ة: **سليمان بن الشريف**	
Speaker: **Mouloud Amghar & Zakaria Ibrahimi** Discussant: **Dounia Laouar Amarouchene**	**حركات وحراك من أجل العدالة البيئية والاجتماعية بالمغرب**	الباحث/ة: **مولود أمغار وزكرياء الابراهيمي** المناقش/ة: **دنيا لعور عمروشان**	
Coffee Break استراحة القهوة			16:30 - 17:00
Roundtable: Health Policies and Social Science Research on Health in the Arab Region **طاولة مستديرة: السياسات الصحية وبحوث العلوم الاجتماعية حول الصحة في المنطقة العربية**			17:00 - 19:00 Queen of the Colonies III
AMEWS/ACSS joint reception on the occasion of AMEWS conference and ACSS 4th Research Forum **حفل استقبال مشترك بين المجلس العربي للعلوم الاجتماعيّة وجمعية دراسات المرأة في الشرق الأوسط (AMEWS) بمناسبة مؤتمر AMEWS ومنتدى البحوث الرابع للمجلس**			19:30 - 21:30 Gefinor Rotana Hotel

حفل استقبال مشترك بين المجلس العربي للعلوم الاجتماعيّة وجمعية دراسات المرأة في الشرق الأوسط (AMEWS) بمناسبة مؤتمر AMEWS ومنتدى البحوث الرابع للمجلس

توصيف

جمعية دراسات المرأة في الشرق الأوسط (AMEWS) هي منظمة تضمّ باحثين/ات وأفرادًا مهتمين بدراسات المرأة والجندر في سياق الشرق الأوسط/شمال إفريقيا وأبعد منهما، بما في ذلك المجتمعات عبر الوطنية والشتات في أوروبا وكذلك في أميركا الشمالية والجنوبية. ترتبط AMEWS بجمعية دراسات الشرق الأوسط في أميركا الشمالية، وتعمل مع شبكات أكاديمية حول العالم. العضوية في AMEWS مفتوحة لأي شخص مهتم بالشرق الأوسط/النساء المسلمات ودراسات الجندر. تصدر AMEWS منشورة كل ثلاث سنوات، وهي مجلة دراسات المرأة في الشرق الأوسط (JMEWS) التي تنشرها مطبعة جامعة ديوك، والتي تعمل على تطوير مجالات دراسات المرأة والجندر من خلال المساهمات عبر التخصصات في العلوم الاجتماعية والإنسانية وغيرها من المجالات.

AMEWS/ACSS joint reception on the occasion of AMEWS conference and ACSS 4th Research Forum

Description

THE ASSOCIATION FOR MIDDLE EAST WOMEN'S STUDIES is an organization of scholars and individuals with an interest in women and gender studies in the context of the Middle East/North Africa and beyond, including transnational and diasporic communities in Europe as well as North and South America. AMEWS is affiliated with the Middle East Studies Association of North America, Inc. and works with academic networks around the world. Membership in AMEWS is open to anyone with an interest in Middle East/Muslim women and gender studies. AMEWs produces a triennial publication, the Journal of Middle East Women's Studies (JMEWS), published by Duke University Press, which advances the fields of women's and gender studies through contributions across disciplines in the social sciences, humanities and other fields.

اليوم الرابع الخميس 23 حزيران/يونيو

DAY 4 Thursday 23 June

Panels 20 - 21	الجلسـات 20 - 21	9:00 - 11:00
Panel 20: Research Grants Program on Enviromentalism (Cycle 6) Chair: **Amina El Mekaoui**	**الجلسة 20:** برنامج المنح البحثية حول البيئويّة (الدورة السادسة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **أمينة المكاوي**	Queen of the Colonies I
Speaker: **Soraya El Kahlaoui** Discussant: **Abdelhamid Faiz**	**Droit à la possession. Redéfinir la propriété par la pratique des dépossédés**	الباحث/ة: **صوريا الكحلاوي** المناقش/ة: **عبد الحميد فائز**
Speaker: **Slimane Bencherif & Mohamed Dahmani** Discussant: **Ali Abboud**	**La gouvernance du régime foncier dans la région d'El Bayadh (Algérie) ; entre transformation de la société pastorale et politique publique de développement**	الباحث/ة: **سليمان بن الشريف ومحمد دحماني** المناقش/ة: **علي عبود**
Panel 21: New Paradigms Factory (Cycle 4) Chair: **Hoda Elsadda**	**الجلسة 21:** مشغل النماذج الفكرية الجديدة (الدورة الرابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **هدى الصدة**	Ille de France
Speaker: **Rana Seif** Discussant: **Eman Abdou**	**The Impact of Ride-hailing Services on Women's Mobility in Cairo**	الباحث/ة: **رنا سيف** المناقش/ة: **إيمان عبده**
Speaker: **Reeham Mourad** Discussant: **Dana Abbas**	**Spaces of Resistance: Women Maneuvering the Sha'bi Notions of El-Khalifa Neighborhood**	الباحث/ة: **ريهام مراد** المناقش/ة: **دانا عباس**
Coffee Break استراحة القهوة		11:00 - 11:30
Panels 22 - 23	**الجلسـات 22 - 23**	11:30 - 13:30
Panel 22: Research Grants Program on Health and Enviromentalism (Cycle 6&8) Chair: **Abaher El Sakka**	**الجلسة 22:** برنامج المنح البحثية حول الصحة والبيئويّة (الدورتان السادسة والثامنة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **أباهر السقا**	Queen of the Colonies I
Speaker: **Maysaa Nemer & Ahmed Heneiti** Discussant: **Abla Amawi**	**الأغوار الفلسطينية: البيئة والمرأة تحت الاستعمار الاستيطاني**	الباحث/ة: **ميساء نمر وأحمد حنيطي** المناقش/ة: **عبله عماوي**
Speaker: **Kholoud Al-Ajarma & Jawida Mansour** Discussant: **Mai Abu Moghli**	**Women's Parallel Labor between Patriarchy, Stereotypes, and Questions of Wellbeing in the wake of COVID-19 Pandemic**	الباحث/ة: **خلود العجارمة وجاودة منصور** المناقش/ة: **مي أبو مغلي**

Panel 23: Research Grants Program on Health and Livelihoods (Cycle 7) Chair: **Michelle Obeid**		**الجلسة 23:** برنامج المنح البحثية حول الصحة وسبل المعيشة (الدورة السابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **ميشيل عبيد**	Ille de France
Speaker: **Meriam Bouzineb** Discussant: **Houda Grimli**	**De la vulnérabilité des individus à la vulnérabilité du système sanitaire**	الباحث/ة: **مريم بوزينب** المناقش/ة: **هدى كريملي**	
Speaker: **Adel Takruri** Discussant: **Ahmed Heneiti**	**The effects of political conflict and social inequalities on healthcare quality and delivery in Palestine: resiliency in the face of adversity**	الباحث/ة: **عادل تكروري** المناقش/ة: **أحمد حنيطي**	
Lunch Break استراحة غداء			13:30 - 14:30
Panels 24 - 25		**الجلسـات 24 - 25**	14:30 - 16:30
Panel 24: New Paradigms Factory (Cycle 4) Chair: **Hoda Elsadda**		**الجلسة 24:** مشغل النماذج الفكرية الجديدة (الدورة الرابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **هدى الصدة**	Queen of the Colonies I
Speaker: **Nay El Rahi** Discussant: **Reeham Mourad**	**Sexual Harassment and The Connective Self: Her Shame is Their Shame**	الباحث/ة: **ناي الراعي** المناقش/ة: **ريهام مراد**	
Speaker: **Samaa Elturkey** Discussant: **Hebatallah Tolba**	**One Body and One Hundred Million Eye**	الباحث/ة: **سماء التركي** المناقش/ة: **هبة الله طلبة**	
Panel 25: Research Grants Program on Health and Livelihoods (Cycle 8) Chair: **Soha Bayoumi**		**الجلسة 25:** برنامج المنح البحثية حول الصحة وسبل المعيشة (الدورة الثامنة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **سها بيومي**	Ille de France
Speaker: **Badiha Nahhass & Bouchra Haddou Rahou** Discussant: **Wassila Benkirane**	**Le Cancer au Rif : une incorporation chronique de la violence coloniale**	الباحث/ة: **بديهة نحاس وبشرى حدو رحو** المناقش/ة: **وسيلة بنكيران**	
Speaker: **Houda Grimli** Discussant: **Mohammed Ababou**	**التحديات الأخلاقية في دراسة عاملات الجنس والانعكاسية البحثية**	الباحث/ة: **هدى كريملي** المناقش/ة: **محمد عبابو**	
Coffee Break استراحة القهوة			16:30 - 17:00
Roundtable: How can you be part of the ACSS? **طاولة مستديرة: كيف يمكنك أن تشارك في المجلس العربي للعلوم الاجتماعية؟**			17:00 - 19:00 Queen of the Colonies III

اليوم الخامس الجمعة 24 حزيران/يونيو

DAY 5 Friday 24 June

Panels 26 - 27	الجلسـات 26 - 27	9:00 - 11:00
Panel 26: Research Grants Program on Health and Livelihoods (Cycle 8) Chair: **Omar Dewachi**	**الجلسة 26:** برنامج المنح البحثية حول الصحة وسبل المعيشة (الدورة الثامنة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **عمر الديوه جى**	Queen of the Colonies I
Speaker: **Youness Loukili & Abdslam El Fakir** Discussant: **Salaheddine Laariny**	**مقاومة التدابير الوقائية لكوفيد 19 في الأحياء الهامشية لمدينة الدارالبيضاء: الأشكال والعوامل**	الباحث/ة: **يونس الوكيلي وعبد السلام الفقير** المناقش/ة: **صلاح الدين لعريني**
Speaker: **Ben Ahmed Hougua & Fatima Khaoulani Idrissi** Discussant: **Meriam Bouzineb**	**A dieu cher Papa ! Phénoménologie ancrée de l'expérience de la perte chez une jeune marocaine résidant à l'étranger**	الباحث/ة: **بن احمد حوكا وفاطمة الخولاني الإدريسي** المناقش/ة: **مريم بوزينب**
Panel 27: New Paradigms Factory (Cycle 4) Chair: **Islah Jad**	**الجلسة 27:** مشغل النماذج الفكرية الجديدة (الدورة الرابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **إصلاح جاد**	Ille de France
Speaker: **Ghadeer Ahmed** Discussant: **Mahjouba Kaoukaou**	**هذا الحمل لاغٍ: الإجهاض والمقاومة الجندرية في السياق المصري**	الباحث/ة: **غدير أحمد** المناقش/ة: **محجوبة قاوقو**
Speaker: **Hebatallah Tolba** Discussant: **Samaa Elturkey**	**Gendered resistance in the face of death: Challenging the division of labour and space exclusion in funeral and burial rituals in Egypt**	الباحث/ة: **هبة الله طلبة** المناقش/ة: **سماء التركي**
Coffee Break استراحة القهوة		11:00 - 11:30
Panels 28 - 29	**الجلسـات 28 - 29**	11:30 - 13:30
Panel 28: Research Grants Program on Health and Livelihoods (Cycle 8) Chair: **Michelle Obeid**	**الجلسة 28:** برنامج المنح البحثية حول الصحة وسبل المعيشة (الدورة الثامنة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **ميشيل عبيد**	Queen of the Colonies I
Speaker: **Wassila Benkirane** Discussant: **Zakaria Ibrahimi**	**La stigmatisation sociale et le cancer féminin : l'expérience de vie des patientes atteintes de cancer du sein dans la région de Fès-Meknès (Maroc)**	الباحث/ة: **وسيلة بنكيران** المناقش/ة: **زكرياء الابـراهيمي**
Speaker: **Mohammed Ababou** Discussant: **Rahal Boubrik**	**مفهوم المسار كأداة فعالة في الكشف عن التفاوتات الاجتماعية في أنظمة التغطية الصحية بجهتي فاس - مكناس وطنجة - الحسيمة - تطوان بالمغرب: مرضى السرطان نموذجا**	الباحث/ة: **محمد عبابو** المناقش/ة: **رحال بوبريك**

Panel 29: Research Grants Program on Health and Livelihoods (Cycle 7) Chair: **Soha Bayoumi**		**الجلسة 29:** برنامج المنح البحثية حول الصحة وسبل المعيشة (الدورة السابعة) رئيس/ة الجلسة: **سها بيومي**
Speaker: **Salaheddine Laariny** Discussant: **Yassine Yassni**	**واقع الرعاية الاجتماعية والصحية للمسنين في وضعية هشاشة بمدينة فاس**	الباحث/ة: **صلاح الدين لعريني** المناقش/ة: **ياسين يسني**
Speaker: **Anass Ben Cheikh** Discussant: **Nay El Rahi**	**المهاجرات من أفريقيا جنوب الصحراء: بين سياسات الهجرة والواقع المعيش في المجتمع المغربي**	الباحث/ة: **أناس ابن الشيخ** المناقش/ة: **ناي الراعي**

Ille de France

Trip to Byblos and Farewell Lunch **رحلة الى جبيل وغداء الوداع**	14:00 - 20:30

AFAC ARAB FUND FOR
ARTS AND CULTURE
الصنـــــدوق العـــــربي
للثقـــــافة والفنـــــون

المجلس العربي
للعلوم الاجتماعية
Arab Council
for the Social Sciences
Conseil Arabe
pour les Sciences Sociales

معرض المشاريع
PROJECTS EXHIBITION

20-23
June - حزيران/يونيو

برنامج البحوث حول الفنون

على هامش منتدى البحوث الرّابع، ينظّم المجلس العربي للعلوم الاجتماعيّة والصندوق العربي للثقافة والفنون (آفاق) معرضًا يتضمّن جانبًا من الأعمال الفنيّة التي تشكّل جزءًا من مشاريع/مخرَجات برنامج البحوث حول الفنون.

Research on the Arts Program

In parallel with the Fourth Research Forum, ACSS and AFAC organize an exhibition displaying artistic material from selected projects funded by the Research on the Arts Program.

Appendix 4: Names of grantees and titles of grants

Health and livelihoods in the Arab region:

Wellbeing and vulnerability in conflict

Cycle 9

Individuals

Mohamed Nfifakh – Morocco

Project title: التمثل الاجتماعي للعقم ومسار علاجه بالمجتمع المغربي: مدينة تطوان نموذجا

Translated title: The social representation of infertility and its course of treatment in the Moroccan society: the City of Tetouan as a model

Teams

Abdelhadi El Halhouli (Principal Investigator), Hicham Jabraoui (Co-investigator), and Saida Ezzine (Co-investigator) – Morocco

Project title: الأشخاص في وضعية إعاقة بالمغرب من عنف الأوصام إلى المقاومات اليومية؛ دراسة سوسيوانثروبولوجية

Translated title: People with Disabilities in Morocco: From violence of stigmas to everyday resistance; A Socio-anthropological study

Mostefa Bousboua (Principal Investigator) – Algeria, Azzeddine El Faraa (Co-investigator) - Morocco, and Saad Amira (Co-investigator) - Palestine

Project title: الحُدُودُ والمجتمَعَاتُ الحُدُوديّة في وَضعية كُولُونيَاليَّة: أزَمَاتُ الصّحة والرَّفـــاه ودِينَامِيَاتُ الهَشَاشَةِ والنّـــزَاعِ. مُقَارَنَاتٌ بينَ حَالاتٍ مِنَ المِنطَقَة العَرَبيّة في ضَوء الإيكُولُوجيَا السّياسيَّة

Translated title: Borders and frontier communities in a colonial situation: crises of health and wellbeing, and dynamics of fragility and conflict. A comparison of cases from the Arab region in the light of political ecology

Tarik Ghodbani (Principal Investigator), Rabia Meddah (Co-investigator), and Abdelaziz Kouti (Co-investigator) – Algeria

Project title: تحسين سبل العيش لدى المجتمعات القروية الفقيرة: تثمين المنتوجات الفلاحية ذات القيمة الغذائية العالية من أجل صحة أفضل. مقاربة متعددة التخصصات عن طريق الترانسميديا التشاركية في المناطق الريفية لغرب الجزائر

Translated title: Improving livelihoods of poor rural communities: Valuing agricultural products of high nutritional value for a better health. A multidisciplinary approach through participatory transmedia in the rural areas of western Algeria

Wadia Jehouani (Principal Investigator), Zohra El Khamlichi (Co-investigator), and Abdel Fatah Zahidi (Co-investigator) – Morocco

Project title: الهشاشة السكنية في ظل حالة الطوارئ الصحية، دراسة سوسيولوجية للامساواة المكانية ومقاومة السلطة الحاجرة في الأحياء الهامشية بالمغرب.

Translated title: Residential fragility under health emergency, a sociological study of spatial inequality and resistance to quarantine authority in Morocco's marginal neighborhoods

Bouchta Ezziani (Principal Investigator), and Hachimi Sidi Hassan (Co-investigator) – Morocco
Project title: العقم والتفاوتات الاجتماعية في زمن تنظيم النسل؛ مقاربة لاستراتيجيات ومسارات العلاج لدى الأزواج في حالة عقم
Translated title: Infertility and social inequalities in the time of birth control; examining treatment strategies and pathways for infertile couples

Institution
American University of Beirut Maia Sieverding (Principal Investigator), and Tamar Kabakian-Khasholian (Co-investigator) – Lebanon
Project title: Contraceptive disruption and fertility intentions in Lebanon: Family planning in a context of rising uncertainty

Appendix 5: ECFP Fellows and titles of projects

Cycle 9

Noha Roushdy
Postdoctoral Affiliation: American University in Cairo
Project Title: Schooling Egypt's New Elite: Class, Culture and Belonging in Cairo's International Schools
Country: Egypt
Biography: Noha is an Egyptian cultural anthropologist with more than fifteen years of experience conducting ethnographic, rights-based and policy-oriented research at the intersection between academia and civil society. She grew up in Cairo and received her BA in Middle East Studies and MA in Anthropology from the American University in Cairo (AUC). Between 2006 and 2012, she worked as researcher for multiple non-governmental organizations and research centers in Cairo, navigating the dynamic and volatile political and cultural life of Cairo in the years preceding and during the 2011 uprising. Noha moved to Boston, Massachusetts, in 2013 to pursue her doctorate in anthropology at Boston University. She returned with her family to Egypt in 2020, where she is currently a postdoctoral researcher at the Centre d'Etudes et Documentation Economique, Juridique et Sociales (CEDEJ).

Mohamed Sammouni
Postdoctoral Affiliation: Hassan II University
Project Title: الانسحاب السياسي بعد حركة 20 فبراير: مساهمة لدراسة انسحاب نشطاء الحركات الاحتجاجية من التنظيمات السياسية بالمغرب
Translated titled: Political withdrawal after February 20 movement: A study to understand the withdrawal of activists in protest movements from political organizations in Morocco
Country: Morocco
Biography: Researcher in political sociology. He holds a PhD in political science from Hassan II University of Casablanca. He is working on collective action topics, protest movements and religious extremism. He has published several studies and researches, including: a book entitled "Masks of Extremism: The Sources of Religious Radicalism" (2017), published by "En toutes lettres" and a qualitative study on "Cultural Practices of Moroccans" (2016). He has jointly contributed to a collective book written in French and entitled "The Cedar Tree in the Middle Atlas: An Investigation into slow torment" (2021).

Aya Abubasheer
Postdoctoral Affiliation: Hamad Bin Khalifa University
Project Title: The Politics of Mobilising Piety: Islam and Women in the Gaza Strip
Country: Palestine
Biography: Ayah Abubasheer received a PhD from the Australian Catholic University in 2022. She received her Master of Global Politics (Global Civil Society) from the London School of Economics and Political Science in 2012 and her bachelor's degree in education from Palestine in 2010. Ayah has held research and teaching appointments at several Australian universities, including Western Sydney University and the University of Technology Sydney. She has taught in politics, sociology, social work, policy and advocacy, and communication programs. She worked with the UNDP and several I/NGOs on advocacy, policy, and community development projects in the Occupied

Palestinian Territories. Ayah has also published articles at Al- Shabaka, Electronic Intifada, Palestine Chronicle, Mondoweiss, and Middle East Eye. Ayah currently works as a Researcher at the Edmund Rice Centre.

Appendix 6: Members of selection/advisory committee

SGP on Ethical Dilemmas of Social Science Research

Cycle 2

Lamia Moghnieh is a EUME fellow of the Fritz Thyssen Foundation and a former ACSS postdoctoral fellow. Her book project "Psychiatry in Lebanon from the 19th to the 21th century: Madness, Violence and Society" traces the cultural authority of modern psychiatry in Lebanon, through primary analysis of archival documents from the Lebanon Hospital for Mental and Nervous Disorders (popularly known as Asfuriyeh hospital) and ethnographic research on contemporary psychiatric practices.

Jamil Mouawad is a Senior Fellow at the Arab Reform Initiative in charge of the COVID-19 and social justice project in the Arab world and the independent professional associations project in the Arab world. He is also a lecturer in politics at the American University of Beirut, where he teaches courses in Public Policy, Political Science and Lebanese politics. He holds a PhD in politics from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. He is a former Max Weber Fellow at the European University Institute, Florence. Jamil is a founding member of the Beirut School for Critical Security Studies, and the coordinator of the Ethics in Social sciences project initiated by the Arab Council for Social Sciences (ACSS). His research interests in state-society relations span the subfields of comparative politics and political economy. He has several scientific publications and is a regular commentator on Lebanese politics.

Samer Ghamroun partook in the initial effort to build the Legal Agenda and was a member of its first team in 2010. He held several research responsibilities before presiding over the Board between 2014 and 2018. He is currently the Board's secretary. Samer is also a lecturer at the Faculty of Law and Political Science in the Saint Joseph University of Beirut, where he teaches legal sociology and legal history, among other courses. Samer's research and publications pertain to law and society, covering topics such as the legal professions and the relationship between politics and the law and judiciary in Lebanon and the Arab region. His research interests also include religious legal systems for personal status and their relationship with civil systems, as well as legal pluralism and the state's normative power in the region

Appendix 7: Members of selection committee

ACSS-FMSH Short-term Postdoctoral Mobility Program
in the Social Sciences and Humanities
Cycles 5 & 6

Matthieu Rey is currently working at the IFAS-research, French National Centre for Scientific Research. He is currently working on state-building in Southern Africa and the Middle East, during the 19th century. He has deeply investigated several aspects of the Iraqi and Syrian history during his PhD. He speaks Arabic and has notions in Spanish, Farsi and Zulu.

Myriam Catusse is a political scientist and a CNRS research fellow (CR1) at the Institut de recherche sur le monde arabe et musulman (IREMAM, Aix-en-Provence) since 2000. Since September 2013, she has been heading the department of contemporary studies at the Institut français du Proche-Orient (Ifpo). She holds a PhD from Sciences-Po Aix-en-Provence (1999) and was a Jean Monnet Fellow at the Robert Schuman Centre of the European University Institute of Florence (Italy). She teaches MBA Students at Aix-Marseille University and Sciences-Po Aix and also taught at the Paris School for International Affairs. She was earlier a PhD student at Centre Jacques Berque in Rabat (Morocco) (1996-1999) and was researcher at the Institut Français du Proche-Orient (Ifpo) between April 2006 and October 2010 in Lebanon.

She is a board member of Politique africaine, L'Année du Maghreb and the Revue des mondes musulmans et de la méditerranée. She is, with Stéphanie Latte, the head of the social sciences department of the IREMAM.

Mounir Saidani is a Professor of Sociology at the High Institute of Human Sciences, Tunis AL MANAR University, Tunisia. He is interested in socio-anthropology of culture, knowledge and art and socio-cultural change in contemporary Tunisia and the Arab World. He published several books and articles in Arabic, French and English in Tunisia and abroad. He also translated books and articles in his field of interest from French and English into Arabic. He was the editor in chief and general supervisor of an edited 1418-page volume on the state of religion in Tunisia 2011-2015. Saidani is leading a multidisciplinary research unit working on "Knowledges, Cultures and Social Change".

Appendix 8: Names of Fellows

ACSS-FMSH Short-term Postdoctoral Mobility Program

in the Social Sciences and Humanities

Cycle 5 -2022

Adnen Jdey
Affiliation: University of Tunisia, Tunisia
Project Title: L'esthétique rythmique d'Henri Maldiney Genèse et évolution d'une phénoménologie de l'art
Fellowship Affiliation: Centre de Recherches en Histoire des Idées (CRHI, UPR 4318)

Mohand Anaris
Affiliation: Université Mouloud Mammeri de Tizi-Ouzou, Algeria
Project Title: Parenté transnationale et pratique adoptive en France. Cas de la kafala des enfants nés dans les pays du Maghreb
Fellowship Affiliation: Centre Norbert Elias EHESS Campus Marseille

Sghaira Benhmida
Affiliation: Université de Sfax, Tunisia
Project Title: Atlas et glossaire nautique de la Tunisie : Complément ou annexe à l'ouvrage d'Albert Gateau
Fellowship Affiliation: Musée de la marine -service de recherche en ethnographie navale

Nora Gueliane
Affiliation: Université Mouloud Mammeri de Tizi-Ouzou, Algeria
Project Title: L'entre-deux: Planifier le M'Zab pour un conflit à venir
Fellowship Affiliation: Lab'URBA, Laboratoire d'urbanisme, Université Gustave Eiffel, Université Paris Est Créteil

Research on the Arts Program Cycle 4
Workshop February 9 –10, 2022
Location: Fabrika

Appendix 9: Agenda of RAP workshop

AFAC-ACSS Research on the Arts Program

Cycle 4

Day One **Wednesday February 9, 2022**			
09:30 – 10:00	**Welcome Coffee**		
10:00 – 10:15	Introduction and Overview of the Program and Purpose (Rima Mismar & Moushira Elgeziri)		
10:15 – 10:45	Selection Committee Members Introductions		
Time	**Chair**	**Grantee**	**Project title**
10:45 – 11:45	Faten Morsy	Individual: Eman Abdou	Paintings' Stories: The Forgotten Route
11:45 – 12:45	Yazid Anani	Individual: Rim Marje	حوران، أما عن باقي أنحاء الوطن (انعكاسات الاغنية الشعبية في السردية الاجتماعية) Houran: As for the rest of the homeland; reflections of popular songs on social narratives
12:45 – 13:15	***Coffee Break***		
13:15 – 14:15	Kirsten Scheid	Team: Mai Elwakil & Nour El Safoury	Why we write: Art Criticism in Cairo and Beirut at the Turn of the 21st Century
14:15 – 15:15	**Lunch Break**		
15:15 – 16:15	Driss Ksikes	Team: Bahia Shehab & Huda Abi Fares	A Genealogy of Women Design Pioneers: Graphic Design from Southwest Asia to North Africa since the 1950s
16:15 – 17:15	Tarek El Ariss	Individual: Salma Serry	From The Archives: A 100 Years of Culinary Ephemera
19:00	**Dinner**		

*Note: 25 Minutes for project presentation for every project, 10 minutes' discussion (by chair) and 25 Minutes for general discussion

AFAC ARAB FUND FOR ARTS AND CULTURE
الصندوق العربي للثقافة والفنون

المجلس العربي للعلوم الاجتماعية
Arab Council for the Social Sciences
Conseil Arabe pour les Sciences Sociales

Research on the Arts Program Cycle 4
Workshop February 9 –10, 2022
Location: Fabrika

Day Two **Thursday February 10, 2022**	
09:30 – 10:00	**Morning Coffee**
10:00 – 11:30	**Thinking about Arts** *Open Discussion with the Committee*
11:30 – 12:00	***Coffee Break***
12:00 – 13:30	**Individual Meeting with the Committee Members** **12:00 – 12:30:** **1- Eman Abdou** meets with *Tarek and Faten* **2- Rim Marje** meets with *Yazid and Driss* **12:30 – 13:00:** **3- Salma Serry** meets with *Tarek and Faten* **4- Bahia Shehab & Huda Abi Fares** meet with *Driss and Yazid* **13:00 – 13:30** **5- Mai Elwakil & Nour El Safoury** meet with *Kirsten and Yazid*
13:30 – 14:30	**Lunch Break**
14:30 – 16:30	Narrative and Financial Reporting (Rebecca Daher) Grantees Sign Contracts with AFAC & ACSS (Cathy Khattar & Farah Al Souri)

**Individual meetings with Committee members focus on particular methodological or conceptual issues that need further discussion. Each grantee meets with two selection committee members for 30 minutes to address specific questions. Please come prepared with questions to the committee.

Appendix 10: NPF fellows and titles of projects

Cycle 5

Diana Magdy, Egypt – Female
Project Title: Women's stories of resistance and negotiation of space between private and public governmentalities

Esraa Elsayed, Egypt – Female
Project Title: أخلاقيات التغطية الإعلامية في قضايا العنف الجنسي
Ethics of media coverage of incidents of domestic violence

Hammoud Emjedel, Syria – Male
Project Title: الذات والمجتمع في التاريخ الشفوي للنساء السوريات اللاجئات في لبنان (مشروع سير سورية- ودولتي نموذجاً)
The self and society in the oral history of Syrian refugee women in Lebanon: Syrian oral histories – Dawlaty project.

Heba Salah, Egypt – Female
Project Title: المرأة في المؤسسة الدينية بين إنتاج المعرفة وتأثير الصور النمطية
Women in the religious institutions: between producing knowledge and the impact of stereotypes

Maram Tebini, Tunisia – Female
Project Title: Community kin-work as gendered resistance: a tale of migrant women in the realm of racial discrimination, xenophobia, and gender-based violence

Mukhtar Shehata, Egypt – Male
Project Title: التاريخ الحي ليوميات نساء الصيادين في البركة السابعة من بحيرة البرلس
Daily life of wives of fishermen: the seventh pond of the Borolous lake

Nouran El Marsafy, Egypt – Female
Project Title: Women lives at 'men's only' suq (market)

Rabab Kamal, Egypt – Female
Project Title: أسطورة العفة الزائفة: لا كرامة في البتر معركة ختان الإناث لم تضع أوزارها بعد
The myth of false piety: no dignity in mutilation – the struggle against FGM is not over yet

Reem Cherif, Egypt – Female
Project Title: Spatiality of gendered fears in public transport stops: Women's daily mobility in Greater Cairo region

Rima Shubeitah, Palestine – Female
Project Title: النسويات الفلسطينيات مقاومة مستمرة وتغيب عن السردية الوطنية
Palestinian feminists: continued resistance; absence from national narrative

Wameedh Shakir, Yemen – Female

Project Title: مواطنات، لا ناجيات ولا ضحايا: إعادة تعريف العنف القائم على النوع الاجتماعي سياسياً
Citizens, not survivors or victims: political redefinition of gender-based violence

Appendix 11: Covers of NPF publications

Cover of upcoming NPF publication

Covers of three NPF publications

Appendix 12

Publications by Grantees and Fellows

2022

ECFP

1- Ben Ahmed Hougua ECFP5: https://online.ucpress.edu/caa/article-abstract/13/2/27/110644/Intermittent-Breaks-of-Public-Order-in-the
2- Ali Kassem – ECFP7: Full article: Islamic visibility in Lebanon, the banking sector and Eurocentric modernity: erasure, development, and the post-colonial nation-state (tandfonline.com)
3- Zeina Al Azmeh – EFP8 https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/17499755211052361
4- Zeina Al Azmeh ECFP8
The Right to Meaning: A Syrian Case Study
5- Abdelhamiz Faiz – ECFP6 https://journals.openedition.org/insaniyat/26502
6- Dia Barghouti ECFP8
https://babelwad.com/ar/%d9%86%d8%b5%d9%88%d8%b5/%d8%a7%d9%84%d9%85%d9%82%d8%a7%d9%88%d9%85%d8%a9-%d9%85%d9%86-%d8%ae%d9%84%d8%a7%d9%84-%d8%a7%d9%84%d8%b9%d9%88%d8%af%d8%a9-%d9%84%d8%aa%d9%82%d8%a7%d9%84%d9%8a%d8%af-%d8%a7%d9%84%d9%81%d8%b1%d8%ac/
7- Mabrouk Boutagouga – ECFP5
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/366499819_trath_alfantazya_lb_albarwd_fy_aljzayr_qrat_fy_altqws_walashkal_alahtfalyt?enrichId=rgreq-ecfcda0a3b4bfc9f18809195cd10ee29-XXX&enrichSource=Y292ZXJQYWdlOzM2NjQ5OTgxOTtBUzoxMTQzMTI4MTEwOTA0MjI3NUAxNjcxNjk3NzUwMjk2&el=1_x_2&_esc=publicationCoverPdf
8- Nora Gueliane ECFP7 - Working Paper Series
http://www.theacss.org/pages/working-papers/1448/
9- Ali Kassem ECFP7 - Working Paper Series
http://www.theacss.org/pages/working-papers/1482/coloniality-racialisation-and-migration_-preliminary-reflections-toward-a-conversation
10- Zina Sawaf – ECFP8 - Working Paper Series
http://www.theacss.org/pages/working-papers/1507/encountering-the-state_women%E2%80%99s-documented-lives-in-riyadh-saudi-arabia

RGP

1- Maha Samman Mansour – RGP5
https://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/Y8Q2T77UBK6VVGB8435D/full?target=10.1080/13563475.2022.2137113
2- Lahcen Amezian - RGP4
مركز دراسات الوحدة العربية - CAUS - مجلة إضافات (المجلة العربية لعلم الاجتماع)، العددان 53-54، صيف – خريف 2021
3- Rahal Boubrik – RGP6
Pastoralisme nomade et tensions sociales au Sud du Maroc | Boubrik | Revue africaine des sciences humaines et sociales (imist.ma)
11- Katwar Salik et a. – Team- RGP7
https://revues.imist.ma/index.php/RASHS/index19

SGP

1- Houda Grimli SGP19-2 https://insaniyat.crasc.dz/index.php/fr/archives/socio-anthropologie-du-religieux-en-m%C3%A9diterran%C3%A9e
2- Hajar Bouzid – SGP19-1
https://democraticac.de/?p=87015
3- Yasmina Qadan – SGP18-3
المجلة المغربية للبحث في العلوم الإنسانية والاجتماعية أصدرت عددها الأخير
.https://revues.imist.ma/index.php/RMRSHS

4- Yasmina Qadan – SGP18-3
https://revues.imist.ma/index.php/RMRSHS/issue/view/2152
5- Azzedine El Faraa SGP17-4 https://bit.ly/3VlPLqD

RAP

1- Alaa Tartir RAP3-article: أي نقابة فنانين فلسطينيين نريد؟ (maannews.net)
2- Alaa Tartir RAP3-article: أي نقابة فنانين فلسطينيين نريد؟ - وكالة وطن للأنباء (wattan.net)
3- Alaa Tartir RAP3-article: عادل الترتير: أي نقابة فنانين فلسطينيين نريد؟ - رأي اليوم (raialyoum.com)
4- Jaafar Jotheri – RAP3 article in folder https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/14/17/10961

FMSH

1- Ammar Kandeel FMSH4 – working Paper Series
http://www.theacss.org/pages/working-papers/1490/