



# PUSH

Promoting dialogue and cultural Understanding of our Shared Heritage



## PUSH/ Jordan Society for Sustainable Development

### Tour Guide Training Session October 11, 2008

### Executive Summary



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*PUSH is funded by the European Union Partnership for Peace Programme*



*With additional support provided by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs*



**PUSH/ Jordan Society for Sustainable Development (JSSD)  
Tour Guide Training Session Agenda  
October 11, 2008**

- 8:00** Depart from Amman
- 10:00** Arrive at Friends of the Earth Middle East's  
Sheikh Hussein Eco-Park
- 10:00** Welcome and Refreshments
- 10:15** Introduction to PUSH and Selected Pilot Sites
- 11:15** Depart to Pella
- 11:30** Pella Site Visit and Visitor Interpretation  
Discussion
- 12:30** Return to FoEME's Sheikh Hussein Eco-Park
- 12:40** Discussion
- 13:40** Lunch
- 14:40** End of Training/ Depart to Amman



## **Executive Summary: PUSH/ JSSD Tour Guide Training Session Overview**

The PUSH – Jordan Society for Sustainable Development (JSSD) Tour Guide Training Session was held at the Friends of the Earth Middle's Sheikh Hussein Eco Park in the vicinity of the two PUSH Pilot Sites of Bakoura and Pella with a site visit to the archeological park at Pella. Within the concept of PUSH, JSSD focused on raising awareness about shared heritage among the direct beneficiaries of the pilot sites including those who have a direct link to the site management, use and economic outcomes of the pilot sites.

To that aim JSSD organized participants from the Tour Guides Association of Jordan in addition to the Mayors and other representatives from the local municipalities of Bakoura and Pella (Tabkat Fahel) who are directly responsible for the day to day management of the sites. The staff of Friends of the Earth Middle East (FoEME), a Jordanian-Palestinian-Israeli environmental peacemaking organization which is active in both the Pella and Bakoura municipalities among other Jordanian municipalities, also participated to further strengthen ties and coordination between PUSH and FoEME.



The workshop began with an introduction lecture on the PUSH project and the selected pilot sites in Jordan and how they related to the other PUSH pilot sites in the region. This was followed by an open discussion. Subsequently, the PUSH team presented information on the PUSH site manuals, focusing on the aims of the manuals and the tools it proposes to help the site managers and stakeholders. The participants commented that the manual should be easy to handle and provide comprehensive information about the site and it should have easy to follow management recommendations and procedures.



After the discussion, a site visit was held at the archeological park of Pella with the assistance of Dr. Ismail Mulhim, the Head of the Archeological Department at North Ghor. Dr. Mulhim gave the participants a general presentation about history and narrative of Pella and the PUSH team added information about the shared heritage of the site and its linkages to other regional sites. Emphasis was placed on how to maximize the benefits for the pilot sites, the communities and relevant stake holders by introducing the local heritage in the broader/ regional context through linking the pilot sites with each other, particularly when discussing the narrative of each site.



Following the site visit the participants returned to FoEME's Sheikh Hussein Eco-Park to further discuss the concept of shared heritage and gain feedback from the participants on the workshop itself, the PUSH project and the next steps that can be developed through the PUSH initiative. The majority of the participants emphasized the importance of the PUSH project and its role in advancing development at the pilot sites. More concern was asserted and requested regarding the creation of economic incentives for the local community to guarantee positive community participation. Participants raised the need to strengthen ties between PUSH project and the management institutions of pilot sites by providing opinions and information to enhance sites management

## **Tour Guide Training Participants in Alphabetical Order**

**Tareq Al Ali**, Friends of the Earth Middle East Field Research in Muaz Bin Jabal Municipality

**Ahmad Al Amaera**, Tour Guide

**Baker Barakat**, Friends of the Earth Middle East Field Researcher, Dier Allah

**Omer Al Daja**, Tour Guide

**Ali Al Deke**, Mayor, Bakoura Municipality

**Salah Al Fdaoual**, Tour Guide

**Akaf Ghzawe**, Pella Municipality Representative

**Mohammed Al Goal**, Tour Guide

**Rawan Haddad**, PUSH Team

**Omar Ban Hani**, Tour Guide

**Mohammed Jafer**, Bakoura Municipality Representative

**Abed Al Kafe Ahmad**, Tour Guide

**Eyad Al Kayalie**, Tour Guide

**Salam El Labadi**, PUSH Team

**Yahea Mobarak**, Friends of the Earth Middle East Sheik Hussein Eco-Park

**Maher Al Momani**, Tour Guide

**Khaled Nasser**, JSSD Director/ PUSH Project Manager

**Mohammed Al Nawasra**, Friends of the Earth Middle East Field Researcher, Sheikh Hussein

**Jamil Obedi**, Pella Municipality Representative

**Mahmoud Al Raeahna**, Mayor, Pella Municipality

**Abdalla Al Rawashda'a**, Tour Guide

**Abed Rahman Sultan**, Friends of the Earth Middle East Good Water Neighbors Project Coordinator

**Mohammed Zedan**, Tour Guide

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