

## SUMMARY

The research team had carried out a study on the assessment of health needs for the population in the project area in the northern Badia Region.

The overall objective of the study is : achieving the ongoing development and improvement of the health status and living conditions.

The importance of the study is referred to it's capability to direct the common efforts among all concerned sectors in assessing the health status and the services provided , and the approaches to improve them .

The methodology of the study is based on the assessment of health needs through the distribution of questionnaires for two months , and additional statistics and the ministerial instructions and criteria for upgrading the health care units .

Analysis of data revealed that the targeted population were 1250 persons , who visited the health centers .

The main findings were :

49.6% of the sample were illiterate 31% of them were males, and 69% were females.

Data on socio - economic conditions indicated that 45% of the population have monthly income less than 100 J.D. , meaning that they live beyond the absolute poverty index.

For health centers it was found that the served population were around 30.000 doubling the actual population estimation in the project area.

The study illustrated that there is shortage in health manpower, precisely: medical specialists, nursing (females), midwives, X-ray and lab technicians, Medical supplies are available occasionally. Transportation is difficult and water supply is governmental and safe. Health education programs are inactive.

In referral to the classification of health centers we found that they meet the requirements, but the services have to be upgraded.

The research team had selected some health centers in Balqa governorate for comparative purposes due to the similarity in conditions and many aspects.

It was revealed that there are no services for dentists nor for midwifery in the project area, while there are similar centers available in Balqa. Some services like lab and x-ray are lacking in both areas.

Statistics for the period of the study, and the annual statistics came to a common conclusion that the major

prevailing diseases are:

respiratory tract disease, digestive diseases  
ophthalmic, dermatological, skin and orthopedic  
diseases.

The services in M C H centers were evaluated, attendant women in the child-bearing age were interviewed.

This figure is considered to be very small forming about 1% of the population in the project area and less than 5% of the women, meaning that the attendance to the M.C.H. services was very poor.

This is attributed to the severe shortage in the personnel precisely midwives and to the socio - cultural factors, and lack of awareness.

In assessment of family planning it was evident that people are not aware of the importance of family planning and the contraceptive use is considered very weak. The medical and nursing staff have to be trained properly.

Analyzing the services in UM AL -Kuttain comprehensive health center it was clear that the center is suffering from shortage in the permanent availability of medical specialists, mainly internists, obstetricians, and pediatricians.

The most important issue that the center is lacking the mostly needed emergency services.

The recommendation and suggestions were harmonious with the perception that the health development is a part of the comprehensive development.

The main recommendations and suggestions :

- improving the educational status and setting up incentive plans for the teachers and learners .
- improving socio - economic conditions by creating fund-raising projects : agricultural and hand crafts ;

- upgrading Al-Safawi health center to be a "Model" comprehensive health center , serving the population in the project area .
- improving the M.C.H. services and increasing the number of M.C.H. centers .
- funding should be incorporated into the projects donated by international agencies and organizations.
- improving the performance of the health staff in the areas of primary health centers ; implementing training programs , and introducing tangible incentives .
- attaching the Badia comprehensive health center to the project area , establishing advanced emergency unit , and obstetric - gynecological unit to be empowered by well trained and specialized personnel.