

Vision Hope International: Identity Statement, Vision, Mission & Core Values

Introduction

Vision Hope International (VHI) is an independent, non-for-profit humanitarian organization engaged in the Middle East and North Africa region (MENA region). The purpose of this document is to describe Vision Hope's identity, vision, mission, and core values in order to clarify for all stakeholders in the organization the driving motivators of its work.

The core of this document is Vision Hope's identity statement. It summarizes what the organization is, its underlying principles, and the humanitarian work that grows out of these convictions. From the identity statement flows the vision and mission, as well as the core values and statutes; the statutes provide the legal framework within which Vision Hope operates as a German-based NGO.

Sharing these fundamental principles with everyone who decides to work or volunteer with Vision Hope is an important aspect of growing the organization while upholding its integrity. The principles which follow are the smallest common denominator for cooperation with all stakeholders in the organization, including staff, volunteers, and partner organizations. All who are able to work within the provisions of the identity, mission, vision, and values — regardless of creed, socioeconomic background, gender, race, or other identifiers — are welcome to become involved in the work of Vision Hope.

Identity Statement

At Vision Hope International, we are dedicated to the advancement of human flourishing by empowering individuals in the MENA region. We believe in the dignity of all people and strive to show others the justice and compassion that they want shown to themselves. The ethical maxim, "Do unto others as you would have them do to unto you," provides a guiding principle for all of Vision Hope's work.

Vision and Mission Statement

Vision:

Empowered people transform the world.

Many people — throughout the MENA region, the global West, and all across the world — do not feel empowered. Rather, they functionally act as if their lives are largely outside of their control and that therefore, they have little ability to not only improve their own lives but also to affect their larger communities. Vision Hope believes that by empowering people, through implementing bottom-up humanitarian projects and helping beneficiaries understand their identities, they can recognize and act out their potential as agents of change and transformation.

Mission:

We work with local communities to create sustainable solutions that advance peace in the world's most difficult regions.

Some of the countries that Vision Hope works in, like Jordan and Tunisia, are relatively stable but face challenges such as refugee integration, unemployment, and youth disenfranchisement. Other countries, like Yemen and Syria, have prolonged histories of armed conflict, systemic oppression, and poverty. Throughout the MENA region, many of the people have given up hope that anything can become good again. Globally, the popular conception of the MENA region tends to be one of religious fanaticism, terrorism, and perpetual war.

Humanitarian projects that Vision Hope implements have the goal of restoring relationships and people's dignity at a local, grassroots level while advocating for an end to systemic injustices. These efforts are essential to promoting a peace in which not only is conflict no longer present but in which people are able to live in a way that they feel is fulfilling and rewarding.

Core Values:

Vision Hope's core values help define the organization's goals and flow directly from its identity statement, vision, and mission.

Compassion

Genuine help is more than material assistance; we believe that long-term, sustainable development is possible only in an environment conducive to positive human relationships that are based on respect, acceptance, and reconciliation.

Trust

Authenticity and transparency inspire the way we work. By open communication, we build the foundation for the empathy and mutual trust that create the optimal conditions to resolve upcoming problems and to find new solutions together.

Dignity

We regard every human being as unique with his or her own inviolable dignity. Therefore, we strive toward a world in which all people have an equal opportunity to attain physical, psychological, and social well-being.

Passion

Where human beings suffer and despair, we cannot remain indifferent. We fiercely fight misery with our dedication and passion, celebrating every change for the better.

Courage

Despite the adversities and uncertainties, we operate in the world's most fragile states, and we encourage others to take a stand against injustice and to support those who cannot help themselves.

Conclusion

Vision Hope's identity statement, mission, vision, and values are an adhesive that bind all members and stakeholders of the organization together with a unifying goal (the mission statement) and means of achieving that goal (identity, vision, and values). They ensure that, despite the diversity represented within the organization, projects are implemented with consistency and professionalism.

The principles laid out in this document are in congruence with international standards, as laid out by the International Committee of the Red Cross Code of Conduct and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. Adhering to them ensures that projects benefit those in the communities within which they are implemented, as well as maintain the integrity of both the organization and its individual members.

All who are in agreement with and can abide by the aforementioned principles are welcome to join the work of Vision Hope. Their individual insights, skills, and perspectives are welcome for the purpose of bringing positive change to vulnerable populations in the MENA region.