

## ***Background***

The following project details aspects associated with the AIS of KHSFP in the MOE. KHSFP was established on January 2005 as a national governmental e-learning project for the KOB, the first project of its kind in the region.

Since the academic year 2004/2005 and until today KHSFP project achieved many international and national e-learning recognitions for its role in providing high quality learning via the use of ICT. The UNESCO considers KHSFP as a unique educational advancement and achievement in the Middle East.

During the author work as Acting Chief of e-learning Resources and Systems Development in KHSFP, he found that many manual systems are still in use even though KHSFP is moving toward digitalising education but the administration part of it is still out of scope and needs improvement.

One of the major problems KHSFP management is facing are issues related to managing the accounting system in the directorate and the entire project which includes a total of 204 schools that are applying and going to apply e-learning by the end of 2009.

Up to this date, KHSFP as a project was implemented in about 50% of the total number of schools until the end of the academic year 2007/2008 and this includes the secondary, intermediate and intermediate-primary schools.

According to the KHSFP 5 years plan, primary schools are going to be included in the e-learning project at the last phase which is going to be during the academic years 2008/2009 and 2009/2010. The MOE promised the public to include all government schools in KHSFP by the end of 2009 then this should happen at the beginning of the academic year 2009/2010.

Moreover, in parallel with the author's study at Ahlia University it became an opportunity for the author to take KHSFP as a case study in this project in order to evaluate AIS concepts in a practical approach.

### ***Objectives***

This project aims in identifying current AIS utilisation in KHSFP and its strengths and weaknesses. Potential enhancements and solutions to overcome current system's limitations are going to be studied and researched in detail and they are going to be the objectives of this project.

### ***Importance of Studying AIS for KHSFP***

Since the beginning of the KHSFP and until today, there are problems with managing the IS in general and AIS in particular in the entire project, such difficulties cause decision-making delays, lack of information in decision-making which may results in waste of resources or wrong decisions being taken.

AIS can help the KHSFP management to overcome many of the problems that are present today and can improve the management in the following areas:

- Dashboards and data retrieval represents valuable assets for KHSFP in decision-making
- Many daily, weekly, monthly and other periodicity functions can be computerised and supported by fast, reliable and effective IT and IS solutions
- Maintaining the accounting system becomes very easy
- KHSFP's accounting auditing and control become easier
- Many IS applications can be implemented with the support of DSS and AI which can improve the management performance significantly
- Better quality of work can be achieved
- No more work and tasks delay
- Reduce the tasks repetition among employees

- KHSFP's vision and strategic plans can be achieved in the allocated project plan of 5 years
- Many reports can be auto generated and scheduled with minimum human-being efforts as the accounting periodical reports
- Previous accounting transactions can be recorded to keep historical data of the entire KHSFP
- Other AIS applications can be implemented in KHSFP to meet the needs and requirements of the project
- High security and accessibility can be achieved
- Many calculations can be applied in a short time such as the calculation of existing goods lifetime and depreciation
- External authorised entities can access the data to obtain relative information
- More development and higher quality of production at the administration of KHSFP can be achieved if AIS is implemented effectively and efficiently

### ***Problems***

Currently, KHSFP management faces lack of accounting information related to:

- Obtaining exact figures of remaining budget is not possible
- Details of purchased equipments, hardware and software and their consumption and usage is manually generated which can contain missing information and errors
- Not all historical, present and future commodities' prices are available
- Location of purchased goods and deliveries to schools or directorates within the MOE are not fully available
- Requesting and placing purchase orders are hard to achieve which can take months to prepare and to follow up
- Tracking expenditures life cycle and available inventory items are hardly achieved
- Generating periodical accounting reports to the MOE decision makers and policy makers are managed manually
- Accurate and updated data are not obtainable in real time
- Risk of possible shortage in budget without the presence of pre-indicators