MIT Education Initiative With Jordanian Collaboration

“Blended Learning Open Source Science or Math Studies”
The seed of this project was thrown in a very fertile soil during **MIT LINC 2007** with group of educators from the: U.S, Jordan, Pakistan, UK, Lebanon, Mexico....etc.
A project sponsored by MIT starting from educators from USA, Jordan and Pakistan to develop:

- A large, free repository of blended-learning video modules, each presentable in one class session.

- Deeper and richer skills in students, enhancing critical-thinking skills, and encouraging science, math and engineering careers.
BLOSSOMS Goals

• Offer a different and exciting perspective on, or mind-expanding approach to a topic.

• Teach abstract concepts through the joining of observation, experience and discussion.

• Stimulate the development of critical, creative and lateral or associative thinking skills.

• Generate interest and spark imaginations regarding a subject perhaps previously thought to be dry and abstract.

• Attract a larger fraction of students - young men and women - to math and sciences, leading to excellent careers in the increasingly dominating 'knowledge economy' of the world.
• Blossoms is based on the concept of supporting the in class teacher with a module guided by Blossoms Pedagogy consisting of 5 to 6 video segments that can be utilized in one or two class sessions.

• The Blossoms video modules are intended to enhance the teaching of certain lessons by the lively video presence of a gifted “guest lecturer”.
The key engagement of the module is that it starts with an attractive question or puzzle of a real life where the students are engaged and motivated, to find the answer.
The module utilizes simple tools that the students and teacher can apply regardless of the culture and the location, yet very engaging.
Each segment ends with a **question** that needs some hands on or active learning exercise to be done by the students and guided by the in class teacher.
The in class activities can be either practical experiment or group discussion, or predictions that help students to achieve the specified learning objective.
Modules are accompanied by a teacher’s guide including background needed, learning activities, suggested future activities for follow-on work, and providing references.
Jordanian Experience

Awareness
JU & JUST, Nov. 2008

Discussion & Approval

Video Taping
May-June 2009

Appreciation Event
Mar. 2010

Pilot implementation
April 2010

MoE Mar. 2009
Modules Produced in Jordan

- Biology 5
- Chemistry 3
- Math 3
- Physics 6

- Total 17
BLOSSOMS had a great impact and created a lot of excitement within the different stake holder producers, in class teachers and students.
**Feedbacks**

**In-Class Teacher**
- Question were motivational.
- Higher student involvement.
- Reached a wider range of students.
- New aspects of teaching the topic.

**Producers**
- Mind exploration conveying complex scientific concept in a simple attractive method related to real life.
- More Research for class enrichment models.
- Knowledge raising questions.
- Organizing the lesson into segments.
- Relating the concepts to daily observations.

**Students**
- Enjoyable & Interesting.
- Recognized the daily life application.
- Raised curiosity to investigate further.
- Motivational & they would like to see more blossoms lessons.
- More involvement in class.
Our Ambition!

We need to have our seed grow into a tree with branches from new countries, and more Teachers who believe in new strategies and methods of teaching and giving the chance for better education for all.