



MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

الصندوق الائتماني متعدد  
المانحين للنمو في الأردن  
JORDAN GROWTH MULTI DONOR TRUST FUND



وحدة دعم تنفيذ  
الإصلاحات الاقتصادية  
REFORM SECRETARIAT

January – May 2025



## Reforms Catalysts

### Donors Field Visits Highlight Key Reforms in Jordan's E-Procurement, Road Asset Management, and Social Protection Systems

In May 2025, two important field visits were conducted to showcase the progress and impact of key reforms supported by the Jordan Growth Multi-Donor Trust Fund (Jordan Growth MDTF), reflecting Jordan's commitment to enhancing transparency, infrastructure development, and social protection.

On May 19, 2025, the Reform Secretariat | MoPIC, in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MoPWH), the Government Tenders Department, the Government Procurement Department, and in partnership with the World Bank, organized a donor delegation to review the progress of two major reforms: the Jordanian Electronic Purchasing System (JONEPS) and the Road Asset Management System (RAMS). These two reforms are central to enhancing the efficiency of public procurement and infrastructure management.

JONEPS, which promotes transparency and broadens participation in public tenders, now includes 52 government entities, with plans for

full integration by 2027. RAMS, implemented by MoPWH, is a data-driven tool that helps prioritize road maintenance and improve climate resilience across Jordan's road network.

Additionally, on May 26, 2025, His Excellency Ambassador Harry Verweij of the Netherlands, accompanied by his delegation, visited the National Aid Fund (NAF) to showcase the advancements in Jordan's social protection systems. Since 2018, the World Bank and the Jordan Growth MDTF have supported NAF in expanding its coverage, digitalizing its services, and improving financial inclusion. NAF now serves over 235,000 vulnerable households, providing a transparent and efficient platform for delivering cash assistance.

These field visits reaffirm Jordan's dedication to continuous improvement in governance, infrastructure, and social welfare, and highlight the positive impact of international partnerships in driving reforms aligned with the country's economic modernization goals.

For more information, read the full articles on the [e-Procurement and Road Asset Management visit](#) and [the National Aid Fund visit](#).



<https://reformjo.org/>



Reform Secretariat



[info@reformjo.org](mailto:info@reformjo.org)

## A Workshop on Reforming Sectoral Licenses to Enhance the Business and Investment Environment in Jordan

The Reform Secretariat at MoPIC, in partnership with the World Bank and in coordination with the Ministry of Investment, launched a two-day technical workshop on May 28, 2025, focused on the development and reform of sectoral licenses. The workshop brought together 30 participants from nine government entities, aiming to strengthen their capacities in applying good practices in business licensing, conducting regulatory impact assessments, and adopting principles of effective and streamlined licensing.

The sessions focused on priority licenses and explored pathways for their reform, addressing the technical, legal, institutional, and procedural dimensions of the licensing system. Reforming sectoral licenses is a key pillar of the national efforts to enhance Jordan's business and investment environment and improve the competitiveness of vital sectors, in line with the Economic Modernization Vision and the Reform Matrix.



In this context, Mr. Omar Fanek, Director of the Reform Secretariat, stated:

*Sectoral license reform is a pivotal step towards economic modernization. By streamlining procedures and aligning with good regulatory practices, we aim to create a more attractive environment for the private sector and foreign investors. The Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation is committed to providing the necessary technical support to ensure successful implementation of these reforms.*

The workshop is supported by the Jordan Growth MDTF, with contributions from the governments of the Netherlands, Germany, Canada, and Norway.

## Jordan Improves Its ODIN Score from 66 to 72 with Strong Gains in Openness

According to the newly released Open Data Inventory (ODIN) 2024/2025, Jordan now ranks 43<sup>rd</sup> globally out of 198 countries, with an overall score of 72, including a coverage score of 62 and a notably high openness score of 81.

Key highlights from the 2024/2025 results:

- Jordan stands out with the 4<sup>th</sup> highest openness score and ranks 5<sup>th</sup> overall in Western Asia.
- Strong performance in economic statistics (score: 80), including international trade, labor, and price indexes.
- Continued progress in gender statistics, education, and resource use.
- A robust legal framework, including the statistics law, right to information law, and data privacy law, underpins the national open data environment.

This progress reflects the Government of Jordan's commitment, through the Department of Statistics (DoS), to enhancing transparency and data availability across various sectors. The evaluation considers the extent and quality of data published on DoS website, based on coverage, accessibility, and compliance with international standards.

Noting that this improvement also directly supports one of the indicators under the Jordan Inclusive, Transparent, and Climate-Responsive Investments Program for Results, which promotes evidence-based policymaking and citizen engagement.

Learn more: [Jordan country profile](#)

## Jordan and World Bank Deepen Partnership with \$850 Million in New Projects

In April 2025, Jordan and the World Bank signed three new agreements totaling \$850 million to support key reform areas under Jordan's Economic Modernization Vision. The



agreements aim to boost private sector-led growth, strengthen social protection systems, and foster innovation.

The new projects include:

- ❄ \$400 million for improving the business environment, enhancing competitiveness, and facilitating access to finance, particularly for youth and women.
- ❄ \$50 million to expand early-stage financing through the Innovative Startups and SMEs Fund (ISSF 2.0), targeting 100 startups and creating 1,500 new jobs.
- ❄ \$400 million to enhance social protection, expand cash transfer programs to 1.2 million individuals, and strengthen digital service delivery in education, health, and employment.

These agreements reflect Jordan's continued commitment to inclusive, sustainable economic growth and greater resilience against future shocks.

## Jordan Advances Toward First Sovereign Green Bond Issuance



As part of the Green Bond Working Group, the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC, in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and the World Bank, held a focused workshop on April 28, 2025, to review progress toward Jordan's first sovereign green bond issuance.

Key milestones include the operationalization of the Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee, the integration of green bonds into the Debt Management Strategy, and the adoption of a Draft Sovereign Green Bond Framework—soon to be finalized upon receipt of the Second Party Opinion. Eligible investments aligned with green bond criteria have also been identified through

extensive project screening across government entities.

The bond will follow international best practices, including ICMA's Green Bond Principles and Jordan's Green Taxonomy, and will support investments in climate mitigation, energy efficiency, and pollution reduction.

## Launch of the Updated National Social Protection Strategy (2025–2033)

In May 2025, the Government of Jordan launched the updated National Social Protection Strategy (2025–2033), which aims to build a comprehensive and sustainable social protection system grounded in equity, resilience, and economic empowerment. The strategy focuses on strengthening household resilience, promoting equal opportunities, and improving the quality of social services, through enhanced coordination among government entities and active engagement with civil society, the private sector, and political parties.

Further details: [Deputizing for King... PM launches National Social Protection Strategy 2025-2033](#)

## Launch of Insolvency Manuals in Jordan

As a significant step toward enhancing transparency and streamlining procedures within Jordan's insolvency framework, three specialized practical manuals—Insolvency Practitioner Manual, Creditor Manual, and Debtor Manual—were officially launched on Monday, April 14, 2025, in Amman.

This initiative was made possible through collaboration between the Companies Control Department (CCD) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC), with support from the Jordan Inclusive Growth Multi-Donor Trust Fund, co-chaired by The World Bank and The Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC).

These manuals are the result of strong institutional collaboration and intensive technical efforts, involving public and private





sector stakeholders, including licensed insolvency practitioners.

The manuals are available on the official website of the [Companies Control Department](#) in Arabic.

## Advancing E-Waste Management in Jordan

The government of Jordan took its first step toward developing a comprehensive e-waste management plan under the [Jordan People-Centric Digital Government Program for Results](#).

A kick-off meeting held on March 17, 2025, at MoPIC gathered key government entities to begin developing a strategy that meets international and national standards. The plan will focus on reducing environmental impact, raising public awareness, and integrating sustainability into national policies.

## Advancing Jordan's National Agri-Food Traceability System

Aligned with His Majesty King Abdullah II's vision to enhance food security and economic growth, Jordan is progressing in the development of its National Traceability System for Agri-Food Products, led by the Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC and supported by the Jordan Growth MDTF.

## Jordanian Delegation Explores Vietnam's Agricultural Traceability System to Enhance National Efforts



As part of this effort, a Jordanian delegation comprising representatives from MoA, the Reform Secretariat, and the implementing consulting firm visited Vietnam in late February 2025. The visit included meetings with key

Vietnamese government agencies, industry associations, and private sector leaders to study Vietnam's integrated policy frameworks, legal structures, and innovative use of technology in agricultural traceability. Delegates also conducted site visits to farms, retail chains, and food processing plants to observe practical applications of traceability systems and understand best practices for data integration, food safety, and compliance with international market standards.

## Finalization of the Design Phase

Building on the insights gained, and following extensive consultations with key stakeholders, MoPIC and MoA hosted the final workshop on April 23, 2025, where key recommendations were presented, including the establishment of a centralized digital platform, user-friendly tools for smallholder farmers, an inclusive governance framework, and the integration of blockchain and AI technologies.



In his opening remarks, the Assistant Secretary-General at the MoPIC, Mr. Ahmad Hawyan, emphasized:

*"This project represents a real economic reform aligned with the Economic Modernization Vision. It stands as a successful model of public-private partnership and aims to build a transparent, digital agri-food system that meets global market demands and contributes to sustainable development."*

## Looking Ahead

With the design phase complete, Jordan is now transitioning to implementation, strengthening food safety, expanding agricultural exports, and contributing to the goals of the Economic Modernization Vision.

## Jordan Embarks on Developing Its National Green Taxonomy

As part of efforts to promote green finance locally, Jordan successfully held the first meeting of the Green Taxonomy Technical Working Group on February 25, 2025. This marks a crucial step toward establishing a national framework for classifying environmentally sustainable economic activities.

The initiative is being developed through close collaboration between the Ministry of Environment, the Central Bank of Jordan, and the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (Reform Secretariat), with technical support from the World Bank through the Jordan Growth MDTF. The Working Group, composed of 15 experts from the government and private sectors, aims to align Jordan's financial sector with international climate goals, boost green investments, and foster sustainable economic growth. The taxonomy is expected to be finalized by the end of 2025.

Highlighting the significance of this effort, Mr. Mohamad Amaireh, Executive Manager of the Financial Stability Department at the Central Bank of Jordan, stated:

*"The development of a National Green Taxonomy is a crucial step for Jordan, providing the foundation for all future green financing activities. It will facilitate investments, reduce uncertainties, and enhance private sector competitiveness by offering clear classifications for sustainable economic activities."*

## Workshop on Professionalizing Public Procurement in Jordan



In line with Jordan's Public Procurement Roadmap (2023–2025), a specialized workshop was held in Amman on February 19–20, 2025, co-organized by MoPIC and the World Bank through the Jordan Growth MDTF. The event gathered key governmental bodies and academic

institutions to assess the current procurement landscape, shape a professionalization strategy, and develop a skilled workforce. This initiative reinforces Jordan's commitment to modernizing public procurement practices and supporting broader economic and public sector reforms.

Read more: [Workshop on Professionalizing Public Procurement in Jordan - Reform Secretariat](#)

## Strengthening Health Data Governance in Jordan - Key Milestones



As part of Jordan's drive to advance digital transformation in the health sector, the National Steering Committee for Health Data Governance, chaired by the Jordan Center for Disease Control (JCDC), was established in early 2025.

The first meeting, held on January 13, 2025, brought together 62 representatives from public and private sectors, international partners, and regional organizations. Discussions focused on key digital health initiatives, the committee's core functions, and setting a mandate for enhancing data integration, consistency, and interoperability.

On April 9, 2025, the committee convened its second meeting, approving its official name, appointing a Deputy Chair, and endorsing the updated Terms of Reference to guide its future work.

This committee, part of the [Jordan People-Centric Digital Government Program for Results](#), plays a strategic role in promoting evidence-based decision-making, improving digital service delivery, and ensuring better coordination of health data systems nationally.



Further details: [First Meeting of the National Steering Committee for Health Data Governance - Reform Secretariat](#)

[National Steering Committee for Health Data Governance Holds its Second Meeting - Reform Secretariat](#)

## World Bank Strengthens Support for Jordan's Economic and Digital Modernization

The World Bank has disbursed over \$588 million to support Jordan's economic recovery and digital transformation. This includes \$500 million under the [Jordan Inclusive, Transparent, and Climate-Responsive Investments Program for Results](#) for advancing green growth, investment facilitation, and women's employment in tourism, and \$88 million under the [People-Centric Digital Government Program for Results](#) to expand e-services and digital infrastructure. These efforts align with Jordan's Economic Modernization Vision and aim to foster resilience, strengthen governance, and drive inclusive growth by 2028.

Further details: [World Bank loan supports Jordan's economic recovery](#) | [World Bank Disburses \\$88M for Digital Transformation Project in Jordan](#)

## POLICIES UPDATES

### Cabinet Approves Draft Amendment to the Customs Law (2025)

In April 2025, the Council of Ministers approved the draft amended Customs Law for the year 2025. The amendment aims to modernize customs procedures, enhance transparency, and align with international best practices to support trade facilitation and economic competitiveness. This step is part of the government's broader efforts to streamline regulatory frameworks and improve the business environment in Jordan.

### Senate and Parliament Approve Amendments to the Labour Law

In March 2025, the Senate and Parliament approved key amendments to the Labour Law, aimed at enhancing worker protections and

aligning with international labour standards. The updated law extends maternity leave to 90 consecutive days, strengthens protections against dismissal during pregnancy and maternity leave, and introduces three days of bereavement leave for first-degree relatives.

The law also requires employers with 15 or more employees who have young children to provide appropriate childcare facilities. Additional provisions include expanded sick leave entitlements and the recognition of occupational diseases as work-related injuries. Employers must now also obtain approval from the Ministry of Labour before proceeding with workforce reductions.

These reforms reflect Jordan's ongoing efforts to support working families, promote gender equality, and ensure decent and inclusive work environments.

### House of Representatives Approves Public Statistics Law

On January 27, 2025, the House of Representatives approved the Public Statistics Law for 2024, advancing Jordan's efforts to modernize its statistical system in line with the Economic Modernization Vision and Public Sector Modernization Roadmap. The law establishes a National Interactive Data Center to enhance transparency and support evidence-based policymaking. This important reform is supported by the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC through the Jordan Growth MDTF.

[Parliamentary Committee Approves Draft General Statistics Law](#)

## BUILDING SKILLS FOR STRONGER REFORMS

### Enhancing Government Performance by Strengthening M&E for effective Economic Reforms







Aligned with the Reform Secretariat's commitment to strengthening the institutional capacity of government entities, a one-day Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) workshop was held on February 16, 2025, in collaboration with the World Bank through the Jordan Growth MDTF. The workshop brought together 25 participants to build skills in performance tracking, data analysis, and impact measurement. A key outcome was the establishment of an M&E working group to facilitate knowledge exchange and support the implementation of Jordan's Economic Modernization Vision and Public Sector Modernization Roadmap.

📷 Access [photos](#) here.

## Strengthening Social Impact Management for Sustainable and Inclusive Reforms



Recognizing that effective reforms must be socially responsible and inclusive, the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC, in partnership with the World Bank through the Jordan Growth MDTF, organized a two-day training in early January on assessing social impacts and managing risks. Over 50 government participants strengthened their capacity to identify social risks, design mitigation measures, and ensure inclusive policymaking. This initiative reinforces Jordan's commitment to sustainable reforms under the Reform Matrix and builds on previous training

efforts on the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF).

Speaking on the significance of the training, Ziad Asfour, Programs Manager at the Reform Secretariat, stated:

*"This training is a crucial step in ensuring that reforms are sustainable and responsive to the evolving needs of society, equipping government institutions to effectively address social impacts."*

Further details: [Enhancing Government Performance by Strengthening M&E for effective Economic Reforms - Reform Secretariat](#)

📷 Access event photos here: [Social Impact: Assessing Impacts and Managing Risks](#)

## Training Program on Insolvency for the Companies Control Department Staff



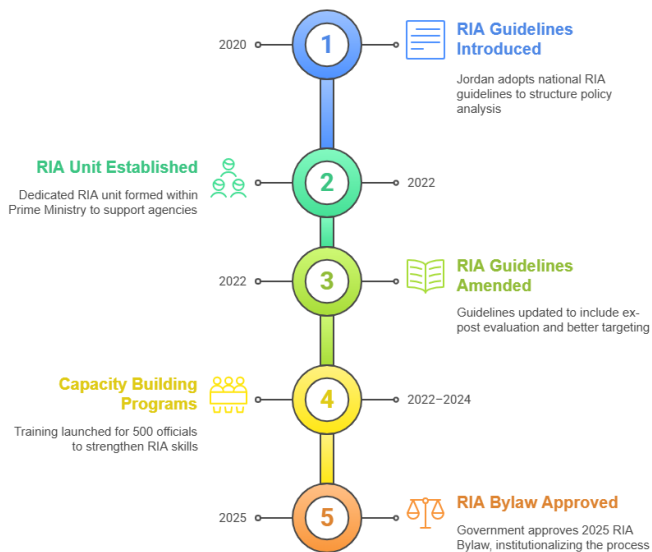
As part of efforts to strengthen Jordan's business environment, the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC, in collaboration with the IFC, organized a specialized training on January 25, 2025, for 40 staff members from the Companies Control Department. The program enhanced participants' understanding of insolvency frameworks, technical procedures, and best practices. Supported by the Jordan Growth MDTF and the Swedish Government under the MENA MSME 2.0 program, this initiative aims to foster economic resilience and improve case management through the new Insolvency Practitioners' Manual.

Further details: [Training Program on Insolvency for the Companies Control Department Staff - Reform Secretariat](#)

## SPOTLIGHT ON SOME REFORMS

Jordan's Regulatory Impact Assessment Paving the Way for Evidence-Based Policymaking

#### Key Milestones in Jordan's Regulatory Impact Assessment Reform



Jordan is charting a new path toward more transparent, evidence-based, and citizen-centered policymaking through its adoption of Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA). This strategic reform has become a cornerstone of Jordan's broader efforts to improve governance and legislative effectiveness.

In February 2025, the Council of Ministers approved the "Good Regulatory and Impact Assessment of Legislation and Policies" Bylaw, officially institutionalizing RIA as a core tool for evaluating the social, economic, and environmental impacts of proposed legislation and policy. With this step, Jordan showed its clear commitment to designing policies that are not only effective, but also inclusive and data driven.

Jordan's journey with RIA began in 2020 with the issuance of national guidelines. These were significantly amended and adopted in 2022 to improve the focus of analytical efforts and to include guidance on ex-post evaluations critical step toward assessing the actual impact of enacted legislation and ensuring regulations remain relevant and effective.

That same year, a dedicated RIA Unit was established within the Prime Ministry's Legal Affairs Directorate. This unit plays a central role in supporting public institutions across

government in conducting regulatory assessments, considering viable alternatives, and ensuring stakeholder engagement at every stage of policy development.

The evolution of RIA in Jordan has also been marked by the integration of ex-post assessments, which analyze the real-world effects of implemented policies. This shift moves beyond theoretical predictions and ensures that regulations remain responsive to societal needs, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and evidence-based governance.

#### From Paper to Practice

RIA has already begun shaping real-world policy reforms. In 2023, RIA helped inform regulatory updates in the adventure tourism sector, improving safety standards and the overall visitor experience. Similarly, a pre-assessment on home-based nurseries supported the development of the 2024 Nursery Bylaw, which streamlined licensing procedures and expanded access to childcare, particularly benefiting working women and families.

These examples illustrate how RIA is moving beyond theory, helping to ensure that Jordanian policies are not only well-designed but also responsive to the needs of society.

Recognizing the importance of building a lasting culture of evidence-based policymaking, Jordan has made significant investments in public sector capacity. Through collaboration with the World Bank, the Reform Secretariat at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC), and GIZ, more than 500 public officials have been trained in key aspects of impact assessment, policy design, and stakeholder consultation.

Recognizing that inclusive policymaking requires citizen engagement, the government launched Tawasal, a digital consultation platform developed by the Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship. The platform enables citizens, businesses, and civil society to participate in shaping legislation, making the



regulatory process more open, participatory, and responsive.

The approval of the 2025 RIA Bylaw represents a milestone in Jordan's regulatory reform journey. By embedding RIA into the legislative process, the government is laying the foundation for a governance framework that is transparent, evidence-based, and participatory.

As Legal Counselor Mrs. Feda Al Hmoud, who played a key role in drafting the bylaw, noted:

*"Jordan's commitment to integrating RIA into its legislative framework, supported by strategic partnerships, reflects its ambitious vision to build a transparent and sustainable legislative environment that meets the aspirations of its citizens. By crafting laws based on evidence and analyzing potential impacts and alternatives, Jordan strengthens its position as a regional leader in sustainable development while fostering a future where inclusive legislation drives innovation and upholds the rule of law."*

This RIA reform effort is part of a broader agenda supported by the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC through the Jordan Growth Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF). The support spans development of the RIA manual, bylaw drafting, technical assistance, capacity building, and the establishment of Tawasal—together creating the foundation for smarter, more responsive, and forward-looking regulation in Jordan.

## Advancing Women's Mobility & Safety in Public Transport – A Key Reform in Jordan

### Bridging the Mobility Gap for Women in Jordan



Safe, affordable, and reliable transportation is a cornerstone of economic empowerment, particularly for women seeking to enter and remain in the workforce. In Jordan, transportation challenges continue to act as a barrier for many women, where concerns about safety, accessibility, and affordability limit their mobility and, in turn, their economic opportunities.

The Economic Modernization Vision (EMV) identifies transportation as a key enabler for economic growth, improving connectivity, mobility, and accessibility for individuals and businesses. Under Jordan's Reform Matrix, transportation sector reforms align closely with EMV's strategic objectives, aiming to create a modern, efficient, and inclusive transport system that supports economic competitiveness and social inclusion.

As part of these efforts, the Government of Jordan has introduced a Code of Conduct for Public Transportation, setting clear behavioral standards for transport operators. This initiative aims to improve safety, promote gender-sensitive transport services, and enhance workforce participation for women—ensuring public transport is safer, more accessible, and supportive of economic mobility.

A 2023 World Bank study on barriers to women's participation in transport reinforces the importance of such reforms. The report highlights that in Amman, Beirut, and Cairo, mobility constraints significantly impact women's workforce participation. Women in Amman specifically face limited transport options, high costs, and reliance on informal transport services that often lack safety measures. These findings emphasize the urgent need for structured policies and investments in gender-sensitive transport solutions. [i]

In parallel with infrastructure improvements, Jordan is also implementing the "[Enhancing Women's Economic Opportunities in Jordan](#)" Operation—a comprehensive initiative addressing key constraints related to workplace conditions, financial inclusion, transportation, and childcare. A core component of this operation is the development and adoption of an



implementation plan to enhance women's access to public transport, including modernized, climate-resilient bus stops and pilot programs to improve accessibility. [ii]

By integrating transportation reform into the EMV and the Reform Matrix, Jordan is demonstrating a strong commitment to international best practices in sustainable and gender-sensitive mobility. These reforms go beyond improving transport services—they serve as a catalyst for women's economic empowerment and broader economic growth.

The Reform Secretariat at MoPIC, in collaboration with the Ministry of Transport and the Land Transport Regulatory Commission (LTRC), with support from the World Bank through the Jordan Growth MDTF, will revise the Bus Stops Standards in the coming few months. This revision will incorporate climate resilience and improve bus stop designs, with pilot projects demonstrating these modernized features. Enhancing public transport will improve accessibility for all, particularly benefiting women by increasing access to essential services and job opportunities, thereby reducing the gender gap in labor force participation. Additionally, promoting sustainable transport solutions will support Jordan's climate change agenda.

Investing in a well-developed transport system creates a ripple effect—enhancing accessibility, reducing travel time, boosting economic productivity, and improving the quality of life for all, including youth, the elderly, and people with disabilities. A truly inclusive transport network strengthens economies and societies alike.

**Share with us your thoughts on how transport reforms can further support women's workforce participation?**

[i] Nato Kurshitashvili et al. 2025. "Addressing Barriers to Women's Participation in Transport: Global, ECA, and MENA Perspectives." © World Bank. Pages 20-22, 41-43, 67-68

[ii] Reform Secretariat, 2024. "Enhancing Women Economic Opportunities in Jordan" Operation.

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