



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

October 2024



Reforms Catalysts

Consultative Session on Enhancing Investment in Jordan



Under the patronage of H.E. Minister of Investment, Eng. Mothanna Gharaibeh, the Ministry of Investment in collaboration with the Reform Secretariat at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC), held a consultative session with the private sector at the Association of Banks in Jordan (ABJ) on October 24, 2024. The session focused on shaping the National Investment Roadmap (NIR), currently under development, discussing the current investment landscape and strategic goals for the next three years to strengthen Jordan's capacity to attract both foreign and domestic investments.

PwC Middle East-Jordan facilitated the session, gathering valuable insights from participants to guide the roadmap's development. This initiative is supported by the Jordan Growth Multi-Donor

Trust Fund (Jordan Growth MDTF), established by the World Bank in 2019 to promote economic growth and job creation in Jordan.

Good Regulatory System and Capacity Building to Strengthen Governance in Jordan



The Reform Secretariat at MoPIC, in collaboration with GIZ, launched the "Impact Assessment" training program at the Institute of Public Administration on 20 October 2024. This initiative is designed to prepare for the forthcoming Good Regulatory Bylaw, which is expected to establish a framework for conducting impact assessment studies and is likely to be issued before the end of this year.

The training aims to build an efficient government body that adheres to the principles



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of good governance by providing evidence in the formulation of legislation and policies.

As part of the development of the bylaw, a consultation workshop was held on 31 October 2024, under the patronage of H.E. Minister of State for Public Sector Modernization, Dr. Khair Abu Sailik, and attended by a representative the German Cooperation. Representatives from the public sector and consultants from the private sector participated in the workshop, organized with GLZ's support and in coordination with the Economic Modernization Administration and the Regulatory Impact Assessment Unit at the Prime Ministry.

The training program will be conducted in phases, targeting a total of 500 government employees from various ministries and institutions to equip them with the necessary skills to develop effective and transparent legislation and policies, ensuring sustainable governance.

Notably, the draft Good Regulatory Bylaw was developed with support from the Jordan Growth Multi-Donor Trust Fund through the engagement of a legal expert and is based on the Regulatory Impact Assessment Manual adopted by the government in 2022.

Capacity Building for Efficient Road Asset Management in Jordan



To support the Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MPWH) in developing the Road Asset Management System (RAMS), the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC, through the Jordan Growth Multi-Donor Trust Fund, conducted an

intensive 6-day training program in October 2024. This program aimed to enhance the skills of MPWH staff and road management personnel. Led by experts from a specialized consulting firm, the training focused on essential skills, including data collection, pavement condition assessment, predictive maintenance strategies, and the application of advanced technologies like Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and HDM-4 software.

Practical sessions and field applications were integral to the training, ensuring that participants gained hands-on experience to effectively implement RAMS. This initiative represents a critical advancement toward efficient and sustainable road management, improving road quality and extending infrastructure lifespan in Jordan.

RAMS is a strategic planning tool designed to continuously collect, store, and analyze data on road conditions, inventory, and traffic flow. It supports both short- and long-term maintenance planning, conducts cost-benefit and lifecycle analyses, and integrates multiple data points such as traffic, accidents, and climate risks. The system enhances budget planning for road maintenance and rehabilitation, thereby improving the efficiency of infrastructure investments.

This training aligns with ongoing efforts to modernize infrastructure in Jordan and represents a pivotal reform within the framework of the Economic Modernization Vision and the Reform Matrix.

Collaborative Efforts to Advance Health Sector Reforms in Jordan



The Reform Secretariat at MoPIC hosted a technical discussion in the last week of September 2024 on advancing health sector



reforms as part of the Jordan People-Centric Digital Government Program for Results and in line with Jordan's Economic Modernization Vision. Representatives from the Ministry of Health (MOH), Jordan Center For Disease Control (JCDC), Electronic Health Solutions (EHS), Ministry of Digital Economy & Entrepreneurship (MODEE), the World Bank, and MoPIC came together to discuss essential milestones to enhance healthcare services for Jordanians.

This collaborative approach is driving meaningful change in Jordan's healthcare landscape, ensuring better governance, transparency, and efficiency while making healthcare services more accessible for Jordanians.

It is important to note that the Jordan People-Centric Digital Government Program for Results is designed to enhance citizen-centered service delivery, improve government effectiveness, and increase transparency through the integration of digital technologies. The program became effective on 27 June 2024 and will continue until June 2028.

Learn more about the program: [Jordan People-Centric Digital Government Program for Results](#)

Advancing Food Safety: National Traceability System for Agri-Food Products



Under the Sustainable Agricultural Plan 2022-2025, the Reform Secretariat at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) is supporting the Ministry of Agriculture in developing a National Traceability System for Agri-Food Products through the Jordan Growth Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF). This system aims to enhance food safety, expand export

markets, and incorporate advanced quality standards.

The project, implemented in five phases over six months in collaboration with Manafeth Middle East Consulting & Technology, focuses on key supply chains such as fresh fruits, poultry, and live animals. With the first phase successfully completed, the second phase is now underway, concentrating on identifying technical and regulatory gaps.

Stakeholders from the public and private sectors, as well as civil society organizations, are actively involved through regular working groups and workshops, ensuring a collaborative approach to achieving project goals.

Strengthen Jordan's Insolvency Framework: Sixth Training Course for Certifying and Licensing Insolvency Practitioners



As part of the ongoing efforts and partnership between the Reform Secretariat at MoPIC, the Companies Control Department at MoITS, and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to strengthen Jordan's insolvency framework, the sixth training course for certifying and licensing insolvency practitioners was successfully conducted during the last week of September. This initiative, supported by the Jordan Growth MDTF, featured a distinguished group of international experts and trainers.

The training focused on the principles and practices of insolvency, as well as the legal framework governing insolvency in Jordan and global best practices. The aim was to equip participants with the necessary skills and knowledge needed to effectively manage insolvency cases, thereby fostering a more resilient financial environment. This initiative



aligns with the reform matrix by addressing key challenges identified in the insolvency sector and enhancing institutional capacity.

Since the enactment of the Insolvency Law No. 21 of 2018, around 40 companies from various economic sectors have resorted to the law to seek relief. The law defines insolvency as a debtor's inability to meet their due financial obligations regularly, or when their total liabilities exceed their total assets. Resorting to insolvency law provides these companies an opportunity to recover and continue their operations, rather than entering liquidation stages and exiting the market. Additionally, the Companies Control Department has granted licenses to 21 certified insolvency practitioners to oversee and manage these cases effectively.

The successful training contributed to a deeper understanding of insolvency laws and processes, significantly improving stakeholders' ability to manage insolvency cases. Furthermore, the course facilitated the creation of a network among participants, promoting ongoing support and knowledge exchange.

Enhancing Public Service Efficiency: National Registry for Government Services Management Launched

Building on the successful launch of the National Registry of Government Services (NSR) last year, which enables government entities to manage their service records and continuously update service card data, the Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship (MoDEE) introduced an advanced phase of the platform in September 2024 called "National Register of Government Service Management". This platform is designed to provide accurate, up-to-date information for citizens and businesses, reflecting the government's commitment to improving public service efficiency and transparency.

The updated platform now manages over 2,700 government services and monitors nearly 300,000 performance indicators, aiming to

streamline procedures and enhance the user experience. By simplifying service delivery, the NSR benefits citizens, businesses, and public institutions alike.

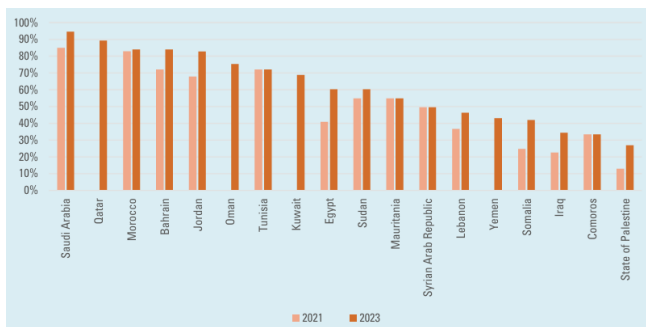
Workshop Promoting the "Tawasal" E-Consultation Portal in Karak



As part of the support provided by the Reform Secretariat to the Open Government Unit at MoPIC through the Jordan Growth Multi-Donor Trust Fund, a workshop was held in Karak governorate on Wednesday, 30 October 2024, in collaboration with Princess Basma Centre for Development to promote the "[Tawasal](#)" e-consultation platform. The event brought together 33 representatives from Karak municipality, governorate council, and civil society organizations (CSOs). This initiative aligns with the second commitment in the fifth National Action Plan for the Open Government Partnership (2021-2025), which focuses on "Enhancing Community Participation in Decision-Making Through Digital Means."

The workshop aimed to raise public awareness of the portal, encourage active participation, and gather feedback on the trial version published in May 2024 to improve it. This initiative is part of the government's vision to enhance transparency and foster citizen involvement in decision-making through modern and advanced platforms.

Jordan Ranks Fourth in Trade Facilitation Measures Among Arab Countries



Jordan has advanced 14 places in the latest "Comprehensive Implementation of Trade Facilitation Measures" survey compared to its ranking in 2021. This improvement raised its implementation score to 83 from 69 previously, securing Jordan the fourth position, tied with Morocco, out of 18 Arab countries. Saudi Arabia topped the rankings with a score of 95, followed by Qatar at 89, and Bahrain at 84.

The survey, conducted by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) monitors the progress of Arab countries in implementing trade facilitation measures, particularly those aligned with the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement. The 2023 edition, titled "Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation in the Arab Region," highlighted key areas such as transparency, formalities, institutional cooperation, and the adoption of digital trade measures.

Jordan's commitment to implementing trade facilitation measures has helped reduce trade costs and improve competitiveness. Despite progress, the overall performance of the region remains below the global average. Moving forward, the report recommends focusing on enhancing digital infrastructure, advancing electronic trade measures, and prioritizing policies that support women's participation in trade.

S&P Upgrades Jordan's Credit Rating to BB- for the First Time in 21 Years

Standard & Poor's (S&P) upgraded Jordan's long-term credit rating from B+ to BB- with a stable outlook, marking the first upgrade in 21 years. This improvement reflects Jordan's structural reforms since 2019, which expanded the tax base and improved the business environment. It also acknowledges international support and Jordan's resilience through multiple crises, from the COVID-19 pandemic to the ongoing Gaza conflict.

S&P's report highlighted the reduction of Jordan's primary deficit and strong international support. It also noted increased foreign reserves reaching \$18.7 billion by mid-2024 and a drop in inflation to 1.7% in the first half of 2024.

